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## REVIEWS

*On Petrarch; with an inedited Fragment by Mirabeau on the Fountain of Vaucluse—[Notice sur Petrarch, &c.]* By Victor Courtet de l'Isle. Paris, Gosselin.

It is an oft-repeated anecdote of Petrarch, that he looked down with contempt on his Italian poems, by which alone he is known to the majority of modern readers, and which have placed him with Dante first among the first poets of his country; while he valued himself on those Latin compositions, which, whatever may have been their merit, with reference to the times when they were produced, in our days obtain, even from the learned, scarcely more than a glance of curiosity. To what extent this anecdote is true, it were now difficult to determine; but that it is one of those good stories which pass current in the world on the strength of an antithesis, is far from improbable. That Petrarch, in compliance with the taste of the times, should have valued himself on his scholarship,—that he should have estimated highly qualifications which cost him much labour to acquire, and which placed him high in the world's estimation, is all very likely; but that he was insensible of "the god within him,"—that he was unaware of his own powers as a poet, or of his services in polishing and refining the Italian language, on which Dante had already fixed public attention, and which was daily rising in utility and consideration, is not to be credited. Neither can it for a moment be supposed, that these imputed "light occupations of his learned leisure," cost him no efforts. However rich his poetic vein,—however prompt the inspirations of his muse, the traces of the *luna labor* are abundant in the sweetness and harmony of his polished style. The bare fact, moreover, that in these compositions he embodied the workings of the master passion of his life, is a guarantee of his consciousness that he was writing for posterity; and there is a superabundance of internal evidence that he lingered with a fastidious delicacy over every separate gem, and laboured with infinite care those thoughts which are so vividly expressed, and those verses in which the ear cannot detect a fault.

But if any such mistaken estimate was made by Petrarch of his own powers and productions, the opinions of posterity have amply revenged the quarrel of his muse; for the eminent illustration of the poet has completely obscured the merits of the philosopher and the scholar.

The idea popularly attached to the name of Petrarch is that of a love-sick writer of sonnets, —of one whose fancies were so alembicated, or (to use a more commonplace, and, therefore, more intelligible expression,) so Platonic, as to have borne him beyond the sphere of tangible realities; and to have begotten a doubt whether the mistress he celebrated were a creature of flesh and blood, or a mere abstraction of his fervid imagination.\* Few persons know, and fewer still care to think on him, as one who mixed largely in the world's affairs, whose opinions influenced the politics of his times, and who ranks among the sacred band of master spirits, that preserved the flame of liberty and of truth through long ages of darkness and of

anarchy, and transmitted it, still glowing and bright, to our own happier times.†

It is eminently difficult for those who live in an age like the present, when illumination is so widely and so equally diffused, and in which events take so decided a lead over the volitions of the strongest and most impassioned individuals,—in determining the destinies of nations, to understand and appreciate the sort of influence which the learned exercised in those dark times, when brute force reigned supreme, and the people were as yet a political nonentity. Nothing is more incomprehensible to a modern imagination, than the fact that the son of an exiled notary, the man who refused to follow the lucrative study of the law, and who threw himself *à tête perdue*, into those barren wastes of modern society, poetry and philosophy, could have worked his way to distinction and to trust, and have made himself an existence among the great and the powerful. Nothing is more strange than that the solitudes of Vaucluse should by any conceivable paths have led to the cabinets of princes and to diplomatic celebrity. Such, however, was the fact. The iron-clad men, who wielded the physical force of those times, were so devoid of instruction, so unwilling to take the trouble of thinking upon themselves, even when they were capable of the effort, that they were thrown upon the few learned persons of their day, not only for the routine conduct of their affairs, but for advice in the difficult contingencies of their very complex policy. In the general darkness of the times, small lights, even, shone bright and far; but when nature and circumstance combined to produce a master mind, its influence was at once felt and acknowledged in the highest places. Petrarch also was attached to the church; and though it does not appear that he took priest's orders, he must have found in that connexion a ready means of access to those who possessed the power and the desire of making his acquirements available. The Court of John XXII., who reigned at Avignon at the time when Petrarch first made his *début* in life, was "horribly corrupt;" and political intrigue and personal vice divided the energies of the leaders of the church. It is not impossible that in this atmosphere of voluptuousness and of pleasure, his poetical talents should have been influential in introducing him to the notice and the patronage of the great; but it was to far other acquirements that he owed the patronage of the Colonnas, who seem to have taken the lead in bringing him into notice, and fixing on him the attention of whatever was most distinguished in Avignon for rank, talents, or learning. The influence which Petrarch exerted in behalf of letters and the arts, is well known. The extent to which, both by precept and example, he contributed to revive a taste for pure Latinity, and the classic authors of antiquity, his industry in collecting and copying manuscripts, and the zeal with which he excited others in the like career, place him in the first line among those benefactors of mankind who redeemed

them from the bondage of ignorance. But his more direct influence in disseminating the love of order and liberty, and in awakening his countrymen to a knowledge and a pursuit of their political rights, though probably not less estimable, has been less dwelt upon. The most singular political event, in which Petrarch is recorded to have taken a personal interest, is the attempted restoration of the ancient Roman republic, by Cola di Rienzi; but of his share in this transaction, little more is known than that, on hearing of Rienzi's success, he wrote him letters of advice and of reproof, mingled with encouragement; and that he zealously defended his interests with the Pope, striving to counteract the terror which this revolution had excited, and to bring the court of Avignon to an approbation of Rienzi's proceedings. An admiration of the institutions of republican Rome, and a comparison of its flourishing and civilized condition, as compared with the Rome of his own days, could not but have awakened in a person of Petrarch's acquirements and disposition an indignant sense of the violence, brutality, and oppression of the petty aristocratical tyrants, whose quarrels and turbulences had reduced the city to a state of absolute anarchy. It appears that the scholarship of Rienzi had produced the same effect in his mind; and as it is certain that the theme must have been frequently discussed by these extraordinary men when they met at Avignon, the encouragement of Petrarch must have contributed to the revolution. Petrarch's letters are indeed letters of credit to Rienzi's reputation; for to have been the friend of Petrarch is an ample refutation of the calumnies heaped on the unsuccessful revolutionist. Admitting that Rienzi lost his head when placed on the giddy height of supreme power, and that the "res duræ regnique novitas" drove him on some acts not otherwise to be justified, it is not credible that Petrarch, who knew him personally, would have so taken up an idiot or a mere vulgarian, such as he is represented by his enemies. Rienzi, be it remembered, appeared in an age that was not prepared to receive him, and he failed from inapplicability to existing circumstances. Like Catiline, therefore, and some others of the like stamp, he is known only by the writings of the triumphant party. We know not the difficulties with which he had to contend; but we may rest satisfied that if he was treacherous towards the expelled barons, and arbitrary in his rigours, (the gravest charge against him,) he must have had strong provocation in the like treachery towards his government on their part. A love of justice seems to have been the foundation of his personal disposition and exploits; and where all is so obviously distorted and exaggerated by his historians, to blacken his reputation and disgrace his memory, we should give even weight to general character, and believe no more than is irresistibly proved. The distinguishing trait, however, of Petrarch's politics, was his perspicacity in attributing the misfortunes of Italy to their true cause,—to the want, namely, of a centralizing supremacy, of a *punctum saliens* of nationality to give unity and momentum to the feeling of independence that was then becoming so energetic in the several republics. With a view to this centralization he was anxious for the return of the Popes to the ancient capital of the world which they had

\* The latter opinion prevailed even among his contemporaries.—See his *Familiar Letters*, book 2, letter 9.

+ Francesco Petrarcha fu il primo a promuovere e a propagare in Italia la letteratura; ei coltivò ad un tempo e promosse i buoni studj d'ogni matiera. Dalle sue opere surge il politico, il teologo, ed il filosofo. Ottiene la stima e le proteste de tutt' i Principi dell' età sua, ai quali fu singolarmente caro e accetto. Sublime nei suoi studj, virtuoso nei suoi amori, politico ne' suoi viaggi. Tale ci vien egli dipinto nelle opere dei suoi contemporanei, e dal consenso di tutti gli Storici.—*Vita di Petr.* da Romualdo Zotti.

abandoned; and where, in the then state of opinion, they might by the steady pursuit of an enlightened policy, have united the entire peninsula into one compact body, and have driven from its soil "la tedesca rabbia," and the "tante pellegrine spade," which had so long desolated, and, even to the present hour, still desolate that lovely land. Wicked and dissolute as the Popes of those days were, they must have been governed by more systematic views than the feudal chieftains, the lords of cities and of castles, who were striving for power amongst each other, and all whose acts tended to an ever-recurring dissolution of society into its first elements. In the papal influence over European opinion, too, there was a hope of rendering Italy respectable in foreign eyes, provided that power were wielded with dexterity:—a hope not held out by any other then existing power in the country. The desire, therefore, of re-seating the head of the church on what might still be regarded as the capital of Italy, and of removing him from the influence of a foreign domination, was a trait of enlightened patriotism which raises Petrarch's character far beyond the elevation in which it would be placed by the sententious pedantry in which he clothed his ideas on the subject. Not, however, that this should be estimated by the notions of the present day: in presenting to the rude and unlettered politicians of the fourteenth century, the sentences of Seneca and of Cicero, (strung together though they were with little order and connexion,) Petrarch opened to the world a mine of sound and fructifying ideas, of which, as yet, it had no conception; and it is this diffusion of an unwonted and dazzling illumination, which gave to the learned such an influence with practical men at the revival of letters. Petrarch felt intensely the value of the hidden moral and political truths contained in the great mine of classical antiquity; and the zeal with which he presented them, in his letters and conversations with the leading statesmen of his age, must have produced consequences far more important than can now be easily imagined. Still it was neither his learning nor his zeal that so much entitled him to the admiration of posterity, as the force of his genius, in striking out, amidst the chaos of ignorance, brute force, avarice, ambition, and petty municipal jealousies, that constituted the politics of those times, the simple conception of patriotism,—the notion that Italy might possess unity, integrity, and a political individuality, and that the *natale solum* was an object worthy of the affections and the efforts of all its inhabitants. This was an abstraction wonderful for its profundity, unprepared as it was by previous investigations, and proceeding from the mind of an isolated student. So obtained, it has all the character of invention; and we may safely place the glorious *canzone*, in which the conception is enshrined and immortalized, among the greatest intellectual efforts of the benefactors of humanity.

After all, however, it is from the great diplomatic missions on which Petrarch was sent, and from the terms in which he was addressed by the Florentine republic, by Popes and by sovereign princes, that we can best collect an adequate idea of his services, and of his influence in the propagation of liberal notions. Whether or no documents remain in the archives and public libraries of Italy for enlarging and rendering more special our knowledge of his political life, we know not. But it is certain that his biographers have contented themselves with hints, innuendoes, and the faintest outlines. A good life of Petrarch is still a desideratum in the history of philosophy; and the work under immediate consideration is not calculated to fill up this hiatus. It is a mere abstract, and that, too, a very brief abstract, from well-known authors;

and Mirabeau's *pièce inédite* was not worth the trouble of preserving. The truth is, that autobiographies abounding in minute anecdote and *mémoires pour servir* were not the mode in the fourteenth century; and it is but too probable that very little remains to be gleaned. That anything should be obtained from consulting the traditions of Avignon is unlikely; neither is it of much importance to ascertain such facts as whether Laura was a De Sade or remained unmarried. Where, however, did Mons. Courtelet learn that Petrarch was examined for his Laureateship in Rome? Robert, King of Naples, who performed this office for him, is stated to have been too ill to accompany him to Rome; consequently, it was not in that city, but in Naples, that the singular examination took place.

#### Astoria; or, the Enterprise beyond the Rocky Mountains. By Washington Irving. [Second Notice.]

We last week followed the fortunes of the expedition by sea, with which Mr. Astor commenced his enterprise; we must now attend to the land expedition, under the command of Mr. Hunt. But this we shall not follow step by step, peril by peril, as, if we mistake not, a part of the adventures here described have already been laid before the public in different narratives and journals;—enough to say, that the usual vicissitudes of a journey through unknown districts peopled by savages, attended Mr. Hunt's party, which was, moreover, none the better qualified to cope with these cheerfully, for being composed of most heterogeneous materials. Mr. Hunt, however, fared better, as far as his own authority and the co-operation of his companions went, than the unfortunate Capt. Thorn. After many difficulties in making up the proper complement of guides, *voyageurs*, interpreters, &c. our readers must suppose him finally departing from St. Louis in the earliest month of the year 1811, having previously conducted the main body of his party to an encampment near the Nodowa River, and returned in quest of an efficient interpreter; and they cannot do better than follow him through the sequel of his adventures. We shall be more discursive, and extract a sketch, here and there, as our fancy leads us, without reference to the proceedings and objects of the expedition. Here is a full length picture to begin with, taken among the Omaha Indians.

"It is this tribe of whose chief, the famous Washington-guh-sah-ba, or Blackbird, such savage and romantic stories are told. He had died about ten years previous to the arrival of Mr. Hunt's party, but his name was still remembered with awe by his people. He was one of the first among the Indian chiefs on the Missouri to deal with the white traders, and showed great sagacity in levying his royal dues. When a trader arrived in his village, he caused all his goods to be brought into his lodge and opened. From these he selected whatever suited his sovereign pleasure: blankets, tobacco, whiskey, powder, ball, beads, and red paint; and laid the articles on one side, without deigning to give any compensation. Then calling to him his herald or crier, he would order him to mount on top of the lodge and summon all the tribe to bring in their peltries, and trade with the white man. The lodge would soon be crowded with Indians bringing bear, beaver, otter, and other skins. No one was allowed to dispute the prices fixed by the white trader upon his articles; who took care to indemnify himself five times over for the goods set apart by the chief. In this way the Blackbird enriched himself, and enriched the white men, and became exceedingly popular among the traders of the Missouri. His people, however,

were not equally satisfied by a regulation of trade which worked so manifestly against them, and began to show signs of discontent. Upon this a crafty and unprincipled trader revealed a secret to the Blackbird, by which he might acquire unbounded sway over his ignorant and superstitious subjects. He in-

structed him in the poisonous qualities of arsenic, and furnished him with an ample supply of that baneful drug. From this time the Blackbird seemed endowed with supernatural powers, to possess the gift of prophecy, and to hold the disposal of life and death within his hands. Woe to any one who questioned his authority or dared to dispute his commands! The Blackbird prophesied his death within a certain time, and he had the secret means of verifying his prophecy. Within the fated period the offender was smitten with a strange and sudden disease, and perished from the face of the earth. Every one stood agast at these multiplied examples of his superhuman might, and dreaded to displease so omnipotent and vindictive a being; and the Blackbird enjoyed a wide and undisputed sway. \*

"He still retained his fatal and mysterious secret, and with it his terrific power; but, though able to deal death to his enemies, he could not avert it from himself or his friends. In 1802 the smallpox, that dreadful pestilence, which swept over the land like a fire over the prairies, made its appearance in the village of the Omahas. The poor savages saw with dismay the ravages of a malady, loathsome and agonizing in its details, and which set the skill and experience of their conjurors and medicine men at defiance. In a little while, two-thirds of the population were swept from the face of the earth, and the doom of the rest seemed sealed. The stoicism of the warriors was at an end; they became wild and desperate; some set fire to the village as a last means of checking the pestilence; others in a frenzy of despair, put their wives and children to death, that they might be spared the agonies of an inevitable disease, and that they might all go to some better country.

"When the general horror and dismay was at its height, the Blackbird himself was struck down with the malady. The poor savages, when they saw their chief in danger, forgot their own miseries and surrounded his dying bed. His dominant spirit, and his love for the white men, were evinced in his latest breath, with which he designated his place of sepulture. It was to be on a hill or promontory, upwards of four hundred feet in height, overlooking a great extent of the Missouri, from whence he had been accustomed to watch for the barks of the white men. The Missouri washes the base of the promontory, and after winding and doubling in many links and mazes in the plain below, returns to within nine hundred yards of its starting place; so that for thirty miles navigating with sail and oar, the voyager finds himself continually near to this singular promontory as if spell-bound.

"It was the dying command of the Blackbird that his tomb should be upon the summit of this hill, in which he should be interred, seated on his favourite horse, that he might overlook his ancient domain, and behold the barks of the white men as they came up the river to trade with his people.

"His dying orders were faithfully obeyed. His corpse was placed astride of his war-steed, and a mound raised over them on the summit of the hill. On top of the mound was erected a staff, from which fluttered the banner of the chieftain, and the scalps that he had taken in battle. When the expedition under Mr. Hunt visited that part of the country, the staff still remained with the fragments of the banner; and the superstitious rite of placing food from time to time on the mound, for the use of the deceased, was still observed by the Omahas."

These volumes contain not a few distinctive and curious sketches of the habits and characters of the different tribes of the red men. By some the wandering party were cheered and guided onwards; by others robbed and insulted. The Crows appear among the most audacious and malevolent of the *mauvais sujets* of the far west. Mr. Hunt was harassed in his journey by occasional encounters with the party of Mr. Manuel Lisa, who was bound on a similar errand, having formed an association which he called "The Missouri Fur Company." The country proved more impracticable than had been expected; the very names of some of the streams—"Snake River,"—"Mad River," and the like, declare its character sufficiently. Here, however, is a hunting anecdote, something gayer

than many of the interesting, but painful, details which fill the second volume.

"We will add another anecdote of an adventure with a grizzly bear, told of John Day, the Kentucky hunter, but which happened at a different period of the expedition. Day was hunting in company with one of the clerks of the company, a lively youngster, who was a great favourite with the veteran, but whose vivacity he had continually to keep in check. They were in search of deer, when suddenly a huge grizzly bear emerged from the thicket about thirty yards distant, rearing himself upon his hind legs with a terrific growl, and displaying a hideous array of teeth and claws. The rifle of the young man was levelled in an instant, but John Day's iron hand was quickly upon his arm. 'Be quiet, boy! be quiet!' exclaimed the hunter, between his clenched teeth, and without turning his eyes from the bear. They remained motionless. The monster regarded them for a time, then, lowering himself on his fore legs, slowly withdrew. He had not gone many paces before he again turned, reared himself on his hind legs, and repeated his menace. Day's hand was still on the arm of his young companion, he again pressed it hard, and kept repeating between his teeth, 'Quiet, boy!—keep quiet!—keep quiet!'—though the latter had not made a move since his first prohibition. The bear again lowered himself on all fours, retreated some twenty yards further, and again turned, reared, showed his teeth, and growled. This third menace was too much for the game spirit of John Day. 'By Jove!' exclaimed he, 'I can stand this no longer,' and in an instant a ball from his rifle whizzed into the foe. The wound was not mortal; but, luckily, it dismayed instead of enraging the animal, and he retreated into the thicket.

"Day's young companion reproached him for not practising the caution which he enjoined upon others. 'Why, boy,' replied the veteran, 'caution is caution, but one must not put up with too much even from a bear. Would you have me suffer myself to be bullied all day by a varmint?'

And here is another description, which enables us to "realize" with minuteness many of the accounts of our North-west discoverers. We have constantly read of *caches*, for the reception of such heavy baggage as the wanderers could no longer carry, or of such provisions as it was advisable for them to store up in reserve for the future; but we do not, till now, remember meeting with any clear account of the manner in which they are prepared.

"The first care is to seek out a proper situation, which is generally some dry low bank of clay, on the margin of a water course. As soon as the precise spot is pitched upon, blankets, saddle cloths, and other coverings, are spread over the surrounding grass and bushes, to prevent foot tracks, or any other derangement; and as few hands as possible are employed. A circle of about two feet in diameter is then nicely cut in the sod, which is carefully removed, with the loose soil immediately beneath it, and laid aside in a place where it will be safe from anything that may change its appearance. The uncovered area is then digged perpendicularly to the depth of about three feet, and is then gradually widened so as to form a conical chamber six or seven feet deep. The whole of the earth displaced by this process, being of a different colour from that on the surface, is handed up in a vessel, and heaped into a skin or cloth, in which it is conveyed to the stream and thrown into the midst of the current, that it may be entirely carried off. Should the cache not be formed in the vicinity of a stream, the earth thus thrown up is carried to a distance, and scattered in such a manner as not to leave the minutest trace. The cave being formed, is well lined with dry grass, bark, sticks, and poles, and occasionally a dried hide. The property intended to be hidden is then laid in, after having been well aired: a hide is spread over it, and dried grass, brush, and stones thrown in, and trampled down until the pit is filled to the neck, the loose soil, which had been put aside, is then brought, and rammed down firmly, to prevent its caving in, and frequently sprinkled with water, to destroy the scent, lest the wolves and bears should be attracted to the place, and root up the concealed treasure.

When the neck of the cache is nearly level with the surrounding surface, the sod is again fitted in with the utmost exactness, and any bushes, stocks or stones, that may have originally been about the spot, are restored to their former places. The blankets and other coverings are then removed from the surrounding herbage: all tracks are obliterated: the grass is gently raised by the hand to its natural position, and the minutest chip or straw is scrupulously gleaned up and thrown into the stream. After all is done, the place is abandoned for the night, and, if all be right next morning, is not visited again, until there be a necessity for re-opening the cache. Four men are sufficient in this way to conceal the amount of three tons' weight of provision or merchandise, in the course of two days."

Nothing can be conceived more wearying and unfortunate than the wanderings of Mr. Hunt's party. Christmas and the New Year of 1812 found them still astray in the wilderness; on the 31st of January, however, they, at last, arrived at the rascally village of Wish-ram; and, on the 15th of February, after a few days spent upon the Columbia River, in canoes, they "swept round an intervening cape, and came in sight of the infant establishment of Astoria. After eleven months' wandering in the wilderness, a great part of the time over trackless wastes, where the sight of a savage wigwam was a rarity, we may imagine the delight of the poor weatherbeaten travellers, at beholding the embryo establishment, with its magazines, habitations, and picketed bulwarks, seated on a high point of land, dominating a beautiful little bay, in which was a trimbuilt shallop riding quietly at anchor. A shout of joy burst from each canoe at the long wished for sight. They urged their canoes across the bay, and pulled with eagerness for shore, where all hands poured down from the settlement to receive and welcome them. Among the first to greet them on their landing, were some of their old comrades and fellow-sufferers, who, under the conduct of Reed, M'Lellan, and M'Kenzie, had parted from them at the Caldron Linn. These had reached Astoria nearly a month previously, and, judging from their own narrow escape from starvation, had given up Mr. Hunt and his followers as lost. Their greeting was the more warm and cordial. As to the Canadian voyageurs, their mutual felicitations, as usual, were loud and vociferous, and it was almost ludicrous to behold these ancient 'comrades' and 'confrères' hugging and kissing each other on the river bank."

The distance from St. Louis to Astoria, by the route travelled by Hunt and M'Kenzie, we are told in a subsequent note, was upwards of thirty-five hundred miles, though in a direct line it does not exceed eighteen hundred.

In the meantime, Mr. Astor had been applying himself to the working out of another part of his plan,—namely, the furnishing of the Russian establishment on the North-west coast with regular supplies; to effect this arrangement, he despatched a confidential agent to St. Petersburg, in the month of March 1811; his next step being to despatch the annual ship, which, according to his plan, was further to open the new ground broken by the parties first despatched; this was the *Beaver*, commanded by Capt. Sowle, which, after touching at the Sandwich Islands, and there gathering a rumour of the disastrous fate of the *Tonquin*, cast anchor off Cape Disappointment, in the Columbia River, on the 9th of May. The arrival of the *Beaver* infused new spirit and hope into the minds of the colonists: two land expeditions, for the purpose "of extending the operations of the establishment, and founding interior trading posts," were formed under the command of Messrs. M'Kenzie and Clarke; a third was headed by Mr. D. Stuart, to repair with supplies to the station which he occupied on the Oakingan; a fourth, under Mr. Robert Stuart, sent off with dispatches to New York. But we shall follow none of these, though they be all full of stirring scenes of "life in the wilderness," returning

rather to Mr. Astor, and the progress made by him in his grand scheme.

"The agent sent by him to St. Petersburg, to negotiate in his name as president of the American Fur Company, had, under sanction of the Russian government, made a provisional agreement with the Russian company.

"By this agreement, which was ratified by Mr. Astor in 1813, the two companies bound themselves not to interfere with each other's trading and hunting grounds, nor to furnish arms and ammunition to the Indians. They were to act in concert, also, against all interlopers, and to succour each other in case of danger. The American company was to have the exclusive right of supplying the Russian posts with goods and necessities, receiving peltries in payment at stated prices. They were, also, if so requested by the Russian governor, to convey the furs of the Russian company to Canton, sell them on commission, and bring back the proceeds, at such freight as might be agreed on at the time. This agreement was to continue in operation four years, and to be renewable for a similar term, unless some unforeseen contingency should render a modification necessary.

"It was calculated to be of great service to the infant establishment at Astoria; dispelling the fears of hostile rivalry on the part of the foreign companies in its neighbourhood, and giving a formidable blow to the irregular trade along the coast. It was also the intention of Mr. Astor to have coasting vessels of his own, at Astoria, of small tonnage and draft of water, fitted for coasting service. These, having a place of shelter and deposit, could ply about the coast in short voyages, in favourable weather, and would have vast advantage over chance ships, which must make long voyages, maintain numerous crews, and could only approach the coast at certain seasons of the year. He hoped, therefore, gradually to make Astoria the great emporium of the American fur trade in the Pacific, and the nucleus of a powerful American state. Unfortunately for these sanguine anticipations, before Mr. Astor had ratified the agreement, as above stated, war broke out between the United States and Great Britain. He perceived, at once, the peril of the case. The harbour of New York would doubtless be blockaded, and the departure of the annual supply ship in the autumn prevented; or, if she should succeed in getting out to sea, she might be captured on her voyage."

"In this emergency," continues Mr. Irving, "he wrote to Captain Sowle, of the *Beaver*, whom he concluded to be at Canton, directing him to proceed immediately to the factory at the mouth of Columbia for its relief and protection, as yet having heard no news, save tidings of disaster and failure; and followed up his letter, by the further measure of sending off a third ship, the *Lark*, to the settlement. As if the proverb of the gregariousness of unpleasant news was doomed to experience signal verification in his case, it was at this juncture that he heard that "the North-west Company were preparing to send out an armed ship of twenty guns, called the *Isaac Todd*, to form an establishment at the mouth of the Columbia." It was feared, too, that "the British government also might deem it worth while to send a force against the establishment, having been urged so to do some time previously, by the North-west Company." Mr. Astor next applied for protection and assistance to the government of the States, merely to the extent of forty or fifty men, to be thrown into the fort, for the defence of Astoria, till the reinforcements he should send overland would reach it; but the government was too busy for the moment to attend to the schemes of any individual; and an after resolution, of sending a ship of war to the spot, was defeated by a sudden and peremptory call for men and arms in a contrary direction. Weary of waiting, Mr. Astor sent the *Lark* to sea in the beginning of March, 1813.

In the meantime, Mr. Hunt had left Astoria in the *Beaver*, which had put to sea in the

month of August, 1812, and with him its better angel departed from the settlement. Mr. M'Dougal, the resident at Astoria, appears to have yielded under the responsibilities of his situation: haunted on the one hand, by fears of the Indians, who became insolent and pressing as soon as they perceived the infant establishment abandoned by its protecting vessel; on the other, by misgivings as to the safety of the *Beaver*, of which no tidings were heard during the winter, and by dark, depressing news from the interior,—Mr. M'Kenzie returning on the 10th of January, 1813, with a face, as Mr. Irving expresses it, "the very frontispiece for a volume of misfortune." His post had proved unprofitable, and he had been pounced upon in the wilderness by a partner of the Northwest Company,—Mr. John George M'Tavish, "who had charge of the rival trading posts established in that neighbourhood. Mr. M'Tavish was the delighted messenger of bad news. He had been to lake Winnipeg, where he received an express from Canada, containing the declaration of war, and President Madison's proclamation, which he handed with the most officious complaisance to Messrs. Clarke and M'Kenzie. He moreover told them, that he had received a fresh supply of goods from the northwest posts on the other side of the Rocky Mountains, and was prepared for vigorous opposition to the establishments of the American company. He capped the climax of this obliging, but belligerent intelligence, by informing them that the armed ship, Isaac Todd, was to be at the mouth of the Columbia about the beginning of March, to get possession of the trade of the river, and that he was ordered to join her there at that time."

Upon the receipt of this consoling news, Mr. M'Kenzie broke up his establishment, deposited his goods *en cache*, and hastened down to Astoria. This was the "last feather" to poor Mr. M'Dougal; and, broken by its fall, (to follow the adage,) he determined on abandoning the settlement. His determination was protested against as rash and pusillanimous by his other partners, Messrs. Clarke and Stuart, who had traded successfully at their posts, but their protest was in vain; when they arrived at Astoria they found Mr. M'Dougal trading with Mr. M'Tavish for the surrender of the post and merchandise, and, after many fruitless discussions, they were compelled to give in. It was at this juncture that the marriage, referred to in our last, took place between Mr. M'Dougal and the daughter of Comcomly. Scarcely had the honeymoon closed, which followed this extraordinary match, (Mr. M'Dougal having merely undertaken in the treaty to remain at Astoria for another twelvemonth,) when Mr. Hunt turned up again on the 20th of August, "after a year's sea-faring that might have furnished a chapter in the wanderings of Sindbad." We must, however, pass on, our article being already somewhat of the longest; but we must extract the "cruise of the *Lark*," the termination whereof gave another blow to Mr. Astor's enterprise.

The *Lark* sailed from New York on the 6th of March, 1813, and proceeded prosperously on her voyage, until within a few degrees of the Sandwich islands. Here a gale sprang up that soon blew with tremendous violence. The *Lark* was a stanch and noble ship, and for a time buffeted bravely with the storm. Unluckily, however, she "broached to," and was struck by a heavy sea that hove her on her beam ends. The helm, too, was knocked to leeward, all command of the vessel was lost, and another mountain wave completely overset her. Orders were given to cut away the masts. In the hurry and confusion, the boats also were unfortunately cut adrift. The wreck then righted, but was a mere hulk, full of water, with a heavy sea washing over it, and all the hatches off. On mustering the crew, one man was missing, who was discovered below in the forecastle, drowned.

"In cutting away the masts, it had been utterly impossible to observe the necessary precaution of

commencing with the lee rigging, that being, from the position of the ship, completely under water. The masts and spars, therefore, being linked to the wreck by the shrouds and rigging, remained alongside for four days. During all this time, the ship lay rolling in the trough of the sea, the heavy surges breaking over her, and the spars heaving and banging to and fro, bruising the half-drowned sailors that clung to the bowsprit and the stumps of the masts. The sufferings of these poor fellows were intolerable. They stood to their waists in water, in imminent peril of being washed off by every surge. In this position they dared not sleep, lest they should let go their hold and be swept away. The only dry place on the wreck was the bowsprit. Here they took turns to be tied on, for half an hour at a time, and in this way gained short snatches of sleep.

"On the 14th, the first mate died at his post, and was swept off by the surges. On the 17th, two seamen, faint and exhausted, were washed overboard. The next wave threw their bodies back upon the deck, where they remained, swashing backward and forward, gashingly object to the almost perishing survivors. Mr. Ogden, the supercargo, who was at the bowsprit, called to the men nearest to the bodies to fasten them to the wreck; as last horrible resource in case of being driven to extremity by famine!

"On the 17th, the gale gradually subsided, and the sea became calm. The sailors now crawled feebly about the wreck, and began to relieve it from the main incumbrances. The spars were cleared away, the anchors and guns heaved overboard; the spritail yard was rigged for a jury-mast, and a mizen topsail set upon it. A sort of stage was made of a few broken spars, on which the crew were raised above the surface of the water, so as to be enabled to keep themselves dry, and to sleep comfortably. Still their sufferings from hunger and thirst were great; but there was a Sandwich islander on board, an expert swimmer, who found his way into the cabin, and occasionally brought up a few bottles of wine and porter, and at length got into the run, and secured a quarter cask of wine. A little raw pork was likewise procured, and dealt out with a sparing hand. The horrors of their situation were increased by the sight of numerous sharks prowling about the wreck, as if waiting for their prey. On the 24th, the cook, a black man, died and was cast into the sea, when he was instantly seized on by these ravenous monsters.

"They had been several days making slow headway under their scanty sail, when, on the 25th, they came in sight of land. It was about fifteen leagues distant, and they remained two or three days drifting along in sight of it. On the 28th, they descried, to their great transport, a canoe approaching, managed by natives. They came alongside, and brought a most welcome supply of potatoes. They informed them that the land they had made was one of the Sandwich islands. The second mate and one of the seamen went on shore in the canoe for water and provisions, and to procure aid from the islanders in towing the wreck into a harbour.

"Neither of the men returned, nor was any assistance sent from shore. The next day, ten or twelve canoes came alongside, but roamed round the wreck like so many sharks, and would render no aid in towing her to land.

"The sea continued to break over the vessel with such violence, that it was impossible to stand at the helm without the assistance of lashings. The crew were now so worn by famine and thirst, that the captain saw it would be impossible for them to withstand the breaking of the sea, when the ship should ground; he deemed the only chance for their lives, therefore, was to get to land in the canoes, and stand ready to receive and protect the wreck when she should drift to shore. Accordingly, they all got safe to land, but had scarcely touched the beach when they were surrounded by the natives, who stripped them almost naked. The name of this inhospitable island was Tahoorowa.

"In the course of the night, the wreck came drifting to the strand, with the surf thundering around her, and shortly afterwards bilged. On the following morning, numerous casks of provisions floated on shore. The natives staved them for the sake of the iron hoops, but would not allow the crew to help themselves to the contents, or to go on board of the wreck.

"As the crew were in want of everything, and it might be a long time before any opportunity occurred for them to get away from these islands, Mr. Ogden, as soon as he could get a chance, made his way to the island of Owyhee, and endeavoured to make some arrangement with the king for the relief of his companions in misfortune.

"The illustrious Tamaahmaah, as we have shown on a former occasion, was a shrewd bargainer, and in the present instance proved himself an experienced wrecker. His negotiations with M'Dougal, and the other 'Eris of the great American Fur Company,' had but little effect on present circumstances, and he proceeded to avail himself of their misfortunes. He agreed to furnish the crew with provisions during their stay in his territories, and to return to them all their clothing that could be found, but he stipulated that the wreck should be abandoned to him as a waif cast by fortune on his shores. With these conditions Mr. Ogden was fain to comply. Upon this the great Tamaahmaah deputed his favourite, John Young, the tarpawling governor of Owyhee, to proceed with a number of the royal guards, and take possession of the wreck on behalf of the crown. This was done accordingly, and the property and crew were removed to Owyhee. The royal bounty appears to have been but scanty in its dispensations. The crew fared but meagrely; though, on reading the journal of the voyage, it is singular to find them, after all the hardships they had suffered, so sensitive about petty inconveniences, as to exclaim against the king as a 'savage monster,' for refusing them a 'pot to cook in,' and denying Mr. Ogden the use of a knife and fork that had been saved from the wreck.

"Such was the unfortunate catastrophe of the *Lark*; had she reached her destination in safety, affairs at Astoria might have taken a different course. A strange fatality seems to have attended all the expeditions by sea, nor were those by land much less disastrous."

And here we must end our notice, leaving untouched a thousand minutiae of the final treaty and transfer,—among others, the suspicions of Mr. M'Dougal's disinterestedness in the affair, which were justified by his subsequently amassing a fortune as a partner of the Northwest Company. We must make room, however, for the dry remark of Comecomly, who, it seems, had made up his mind, with the true savage gusto for wars and fighting, to assist in the maintenance of Astoria, and felt much aggrieved at the faint-heartedness of the "great Eri."

"He no longer prided himself upon his white son-in-law, but, whenever he was asked about him, shook his head, and replied, that his daughter had made a mistake, and instead of getting a great warrior for a husband, had married herself to a squaw."

We must make room, too, for a few of Mr. Irving's concluding remarks:—

"It is painful, at all times, to see a grand and beneficial stroke of genius fail of its aim, but we regret the failure of this enterprise in a national point of view; for, had it been crowned with success, it would have redounded greatly to the advantage and extension of our commerce. The profits drawn from the country in question by the British Fur Company, though of ample amount, form no criterion by which to judge of the advantages that would have arisen had it been entirely in the hands of citizens of the United States. That company, as has been shown, is limited in the nature and scope of its operations, and can make but little use of the maritime facilities held out by an emporium and a harbour on that coast. In our hands, beside the roving bands of trappers and traders, the country would have been explored and settled by industrious husbandmen; and the fertile valleys, bordering its rivers, and shut up among its mountains, would have been made to pour forth their agricultural treasure to contribute to the general wealth. • • We repeat, therefore, our sincere regret, that our government should have neglected the overture of Mr. Astor, and suffered the moment to pass by, when full possession of this region might have been taken quietly, as a matter of course, and a military post established, without dispute, at Astoria. Our statesmen have become sensible, when too late, of the importance of

this measure. Bills have repeatedly been brought into congress for the purpose, but without success; and our rightful possessions on that coast, as well as our trade on the Pacific, have no rallying point protected by the national flag, and by a military force.

"In the mean time, the second period of ten years is fast elapsing. In 1838, the question of title will again come up, and most probably, in the present amicable state of our relations with Great Britain, will be again postponed. Every year, however, the litigated claim is growing in importance. There is no pride so jealous and irritable as the pride of territory. As one wave of emigration after another rolls into the vast regions of the west, and our settlements stretch towards the Rocky Mountains, the eager eyes of our pioneers will pry beyond, and they will become impatient of any barrier or impediment in the way of what they consider a grand outlet of our empire. Should any circumstance, therefore, unfortunately occur to disturb the present harmony of the two nations, this ill-adjusted question, which now lies dormant, may suddenly stir up into one of belligerent import, and Astoria become the watchword in a contest for dominion on the shores of the Pacific."

*The Great Metropolis.* By the Author of 'Random Recollections of the Lords and Commons.' 2 vols. Saunders & Otley.

THIS book should have been entitled 'The Theatres, the Clubs, and the Press of London,' for the chapters on society which it contains read so much like caricatures, and obviously owe so much more to hearsay than personal experience, that they were far better removed from the volumes before us. Like the previous publications by its author, 'The Great Metropolis' is smart and amusing:—a hasty perusal, however, has revealed to us so many blunders in the first volume, that we shall not, for the present, quote from it, having no time to accompany our extracts with comments and corrections. Suffice it to say, that our author has carried his *random* spirit much too far in his present work, both in looseness of stating facts and in the admission of personality. The second volume is entirely devoted to the "Press of London:" our provincial readers will be interested in reading of its mechanical details, while those of the metropolis are always ready for a good story. To gratify both, then, and by way of sequel to the 'Recollections of the Houses of Lords and Commons,' on which we have drawn liberally, we shall confine our present extracts to anecdotes of that useful and diligent body—the parliamentary reporters.

"The Parliamentary Reporting establishment of the daily press has been jocularly called 'The Fourth Estate.' The joke is one of those in which there is much more truth than is generally supposed. The influence which the parliamentary reporters exercise on public opinion, is incalculably great. Everything is left to their own discretion. They receive no instructions from the proprietors or editors of the different journals with which they are connected, as to what is to be reported, and what not; and when their reports are completed they are handed to the compositors, without the alteration of a single word, or anything in the shape of enlargement or abridgement being suggested by the editors. It is clear, therefore, that their power to influence public opinion is very great. Happily, however, the power which the reporters thus possess is almost invariably exercised in the right way. They never allow private partialities or private prejudices to interfere with their discharge of a public duty. They always take care to proportion the length of their reports to the space which the speaker fills in the public eye, and to the importance, or otherwise, of the subject on which he addresses the House. And their tact and judgment in this respect are remarkable. They know well who are the most influential speakers, and what is the measure of importance which the public attach to the question discussed. \*

"We often hear of the advantages of a division of labour. There never was a more striking illustra-

tion of this than is furnished in the case of parliamentary reporting. When Mr. Perry, late proprietor of 'The Morning Chronicle,' commenced his career as a reporter, which was about the year 1780, the morning papers had only one reporter each. He had to remain in the House during the whole of the proceedings, and to give an account of them—a mere outline, of course—from the beginning to the end. What aggravated the fatigue and difficulty of the task, was the circumstance of not being allowed to take any notes in the gallery. Reporters were then obliged to trust wholly to memory. The entire number of parliamentary reporters now on the metropolitan newspaper press, is about eighty. Upwards of sixty of the number are on the morning papers, and the remainder on the evening. The parliamentary reporting corps of the leading morning papers, varies from twelve to fifteen. Each reporter takes a turn of three-quarters of an hour's duration. The moment his time has expired, he quits the gallery, his place being taken by another, walks down to the office of the paper for which he is engaged, where he extends his notes in a legible hand, and then transfers the manuscript, which is on small slips, written only on one side,—to the printer. The printer distributes the slips among the compositors. The writing only on one side, facilitates the labour of the compositors, who, when five or six of them are employed on the same reporter's copy, always put his manuscript into types as fast as he can get it ready. When the reporter who succeeded the first gentleman has been on duty his three-quarters of an hour, he is relieved by some of his colleagues, and he also goes directly to the office to write out his copy in a perfect hand. In this way the thing goes on alphabetically the whole night, until all the reporters on the different establishments have severally had their 'turns'—unless the House should chance to rise before the number is exhausted. It is but very seldom that any of the reporters have two turns on the same night. They only have so, either when two or three of them are absent from ill health, or on other business, or when both Houses sit for some considerable time. In that case the reporters severally extend the duration of their turns, in either House, to an hour,—otherwise they would be required to take a second turn before they had written out the first. This sometimes happens even with the hour turns. It so happens, either when the speaker or the subject has been so important as to render a copious report desirable; or when the reporter's notes, which is pretty often the case, are so confused as to prevent his reading them with ease.

"When a reporter begins extending his notes for the compositor, he writes at the commencement of his first slip his own name and the name of the colleague whom he succeeds, in this way.—Hammond follows Richards, or whatever else the names of the parties chance to be. When he finishes his turn, he writes in the same way at the end of his slip the name of the gentleman who follows him, together with his own. The object of this is to enable the printer to arrange the copy given him by the various reporters in its proper order. But for this regulation, the speeches of the different members would be thrown into confusion, and awkward transpositions of the several parts of the same member's speech would also occasionally occur.

"When a reporter takes copious notes of any speech, it usually requires five times the time to extend those notes in a readable hand, which it occupied in taking them. Supposing, for instance, that a reporter has a turn of an hour, it will take fully five hours hard incessant labour to extend his notes for the printer. The notes which a good reporter will take in three-quarters of an hour, usually fill, when extended, about two columns of 'The Times.' In the case of Lord Stanley, and some other honourable members, who speak with much rapidity, the notes so taken would, when written out at full length, occupy two columns and a half of 'The Times.'

"Many of the reporters write with much rapidity. It is considered a great effort to write a column of 'The Times' in two hours and a half; but instances have been known of its being done in two hours. Mr. Sergeant Spankie was one of the most rapid writers ever known on the press. When a reporter on 'The Morning Chronicle,' in Mr. Perry's time, he, on one

occasion, wrote a column in an hour. To be sure, the paper was then much smaller in size than it now is, and the type much larger than that now used, but the disproportion was not so great as not to entitle the effort of the learned gentleman to be regarded as the most successful one at rapid writing, with which I am acquainted. The next most successful, perhaps, was that of the late Mr. William Godwin, junior, who, when a reporter five or six years ago on 'The Morning Chronicle,' wrote a column of the then size of the paper in an hour and three-quarters. It is to be observed, that in the cases to which I refer there was not only the mere manual exercise of writing, but also the reading of the notes. \*

"Complaints are occasionally made by members, that their speeches are not reported *verbatim*. Pretty speeches, in that case, would some of their orations appear! The plan of giving *verbatim* reports was once tried by Dr. Stoddart, now Sir John Stoddart, when he conducted 'The New Times.' The result of the experiment was such as ought to prevent any one calling for *verbatim* reports in future. The members made downright fools of themselves, and set the public laughing from one end of the town to the other. Lord Castlereagh exhibited himself as 'standing prostrate at the foot of Majesty,' and as 'walking forward with his back turned on himself.' Sir Frederick Flood, one of the Irish members, and a great stickler for *verbatim* reports, appeared one morning as having on the previous evening enlightened and delighted the House with the following profound philosophy and brilliant eloquence:—'Mr. Spaker.—As I was coming to the House to perform my duty to the country and old Ireland, I was brutally attacked, Sir, by a mob, Mr. Spaker, of rags-muffins, Sir. If, Sir, any honourable gentleman is to be assaulted, Mr. Spaker, by such a parcel of spalspeens, Sir, as were after attacking me, Mr. Spaker, then I say, Mr. Spaker, that if you do not, Mr. Spaker, be after protecting gentleman, like myself, Sir, we cannot be after coming to the House of Parliament at all at all, Mr. Spaker. And, Sir, may I be after axing you, Sir, what, Sir, would become, Sir, of the business of the country, Mr. Spaker, in such a case, Mr. Spaker? Will you, Sir, be after answering myself that question, Mr. Spaker? It's myself that would like an answer, Sir, to the question, Sir, as soon as convenient, Sir, which I have asked you, Mr. Spaker.'† \*

"In the last House the reporters' room was immediately adjoining the gallery for the public. The reporters were in consequence everlastingly annoyed by 'strangers' asking the way to it. On one occasion, in the session of 1834, a farmer-looking person, the very *bean ideal*, I can fancy, of one of Cobetti's 'clodpoles,' after having been told the way into the gallery by one of the reporters, inquired whether he should stand or sit when he went in. 'What you must do,' said the reporter, who had been a good deal annoyed by 'strangers' a little before, 'what you must do is constantly to bow as low as possible to the Speaker, whom you will see in the chair, at the other end, and when he observes you, and makes a nod, you may then sit down.'

"The poor simple countryman did as he was desired. On entering the gallery he bowed as low and unremittingly to the Speaker as if a Chinese mandarin, to the great amusement of the other 'strangers,' who wondered what it 'was all about;' but still no nod of recognition from the man, as he called him, with the 'big wig.' The poor fellow did not, in parliamentary phraseology, 'catch the Speaker's eye.' At length, one of the officers, observing the stranger going his obeisance to Mr. Speaker, ordered him to be seated; an order with which, though given in a very surly manner, he very promptly and cheerfully complied. \*

"Sir Frederick was a singularly eccentric man. He was quite delighted when any one asked a frank from him, and whether the party applying for it was a person moving in the same sphere of society as himself, or one of the most ragged of his country's peasantry, he was sure to address him as follows:—'Was it a frank you said? Sure then, it's myself will have very grate pleasure in giving a frank to a gentleman like yourself who asks it in such a genteel-like way. I'm delighted, Sir, to have it in my power to give a frank to a man who has so much of the manners of a gentleman. Would you be kind enough, Sir, to be after telling me what's the address of your letter?' The epistle was then franked, when Sir Frederick presented it to the party with a low bow, as if he were the obliged instead of the obliging party."

"About five-and-thirty years ago, the debate, which was about English labourers, being one evening unusually dull, Jack Finnarty, who had but a short time before been imported from Tipperary, said to the only other reporter in the gallery at the time, that he felt very drowsy, and that he would be after taking a little bit of a nap, if he would tell him, when he awoke, anything which might take place. The other agreed; and Jack, in a moment, was fast locked in the arms of Morpheus. An hour elapsed, and after half-a-dozen yawns Jack opened his eyes.

"Has anything happened?" was his first question to his friend.

"To be sure there has," said the other, whose name was Morgan O'Sullivan.

"Has there, by the powers!" exclaimed Jack, pricking up his ears in the plenitude of his anxiety to learn what it was.

"Yes, Jack, and very important too."

"By Jusus, then, and why don't you be after telling it me at once? What was it about?"

"About the virtue of the Irish potato, Jack."

"Was it the Irish potato you said, Morgan?"

"The Irish potato; and a most eloquent speech it was."

"Thunder and lightning, then, and why don't you tell it me?"

"I'll read it from my note book, Jack, and you'll take it down as I go on," said Morgan.

"Och, it's myself, sure, that's ready at any time to write what any Mamber says about our praties. Are you ready to begin?"

"Quite ready," answered Morgan.

"Now then," said Jack, with an energy which strangely contrasted with the previous languor of his manner. "Now then, Morgan, my boy."

Morgan, affecting to read from his note book, commenced thus:—"the honourable Mamber, said, that if—

"Och, be aisy a little bit," interrupted Jack; "who was the honourable Mamber?"

Morgan, hesitating for a moment—Was it his name you asked? Sure it was Mr. Wilberforce."

"Mr. Wilberforce! Och, very well then."

Morgan resumed. "Mr. Wilberforce said, that it always appeared to him beyond all question, that the great cause why the Irish labourers were, as a body, so much stronger, and capable of enduring so much greater physical fatigue, than the English, was the surpassing virtues of their potato. And he—"

"Morgan, my dear fellow," shouted Jack at the mention of the Irish potato, his countenance lighting up with ecstasy as he spoke, "Morgan, my dear fellow, this is so important that we must give it in the first person."

"Do you think so?" said Morgan.

"Throth, and I do," answered Jack.

"Very well," said the other.

Morgan then resumed. "And I have no doubt, continued Mr. Wilberforce, 'that had it been my lot to be born and reared in—'

"Did the member say *reared*?" interrupted Jack exultingly, evidently associating the word with the growth of potatoes in his 'own blessed country.'

"He said *reared*," observed the other, who then resumed:—"Had it been my lot to be born and reared in Ireland, where my food would have principally consisted of the potato,—that most nutritious and salubrious root,—instead of being the poor, infirm, shrivelled, and stunted creature you, Sir, and honourable gentlemen, now behold me—I would have been a tall, stout, athletic man, and able to carry an enormous weight."

Here Jack Finnarty observed, looking his friend eagerly in the face.—"Faith, Morgan, and that's what I call throe eloquence! Go on."

"I hold that root to be invaluable; and the man who first cultivated it in Ireland, I regard as a benefactor of the first magnitude to his species. And my decided opinion is that never until we grow potatoes in England, in sufficient quantities to feed all our labourers, will those labourers be so able-bodied a class as the Irish. ("Hear, hear!" from both sides of the House.)

"Well, by St. Patrick, but that bates everything," observed Jack, on finishing his notes. That's rare

"Mr. Wilberforce's personal appearance was exactly what it is here described to have been."

philosophy. And the other Mimbers cried "Hear, hear!" did they?"

"The other members cried "Hear, hear!" answered Morgan.

"In a quarter of an hour afterwards the House rose. Morgan went away direct to the office of the paper for which he was employed; while Jack, in perfect ecstasies at the eulogium which had been pronounced on the virtue of the potatoes of 'ould Ireland,' ran in breathless haste to a public-house, where the reporters who should have been on duty for the other morning papers were assembled. He read over his notes to them, which they copied verbatim, and not being at the time in the best possible condition for judging of the probability of Mr. Wilberforce delivering such a speech, they repaired to their respective offices, and actually gave a copy of it into the hands of the printer. Next morning it appeared in all the papers, except the one with which Morgan O'Sullivan was connected. The sensation and surprise it created in town, exceeded everything. Had it only appeared in one or two of the papers, persons of ordinary intelligence must at once have concluded that there was some mistake about the matter. But its appearing in all of the journals except one, and that one so very obscure, that scarcely anybody knew whether the speech was in it or not, forced, as it were people to the conclusion that it must have been actually spoken. The inference was plain. Everybody, while regretting that the necessity should exist, saw that no other course was left but to put Mr. Wilberforce at once into a strait-jacket, and provide him with a keeper. In the evening the House met as usual, and Mr. Wilberforce, on the Speaker taking the chair, rose and begged the indulgence of the House for one moment to a matter which concerned it, as well as himself, personally. 'Every honourable member,' he observed, 'has doubtless read the speech which I am represented as having made on the previous night. With the permission of the House I will read it.' (Here the honourable member read the speech amidst deafening roars of laughter.) 'I can assure hon. members that no one could have read this speech with more surprise than I myself did this morning when I found the paper on my breakfast-table. For myself, personally, I care but little about it, though if I were capable of uttering such nonsense as is here put into my mouth, it is high time that, instead of being a member of this House, I were an inmate of some lunatic asylum. It is for the dignity of this House that I feel concerned; for if honourable members were capable of listening to such nonsense, supposing me capable of giving expression to it, it were much more appropriate to call this a theatre for the performance of farces, than a place for the legislative deliberations of the representatives of the nation.'

"It was proposed by some members to call the printers of the different papers in which the speech appeared, to the bar of the House for a breach of privilege; but the matter was eventually allowed to drop."

So much for the present, concerning the metropolitan papers; here is a droll, though somewhat extravagant, anecdote, of their "country cousins," with which we shall close our notice:

"By far the most amusing circumstance § that has ever come to my knowledge respecting the rivalry of any two country papers, occurred some years ago in the case of two West-of-England journals. As the chief recommendation of all provincial papers is the interest and quantity of their local news, the two editorial personages to whom I refer principally displayed their hostility to each other by a deadly rivalry in that kind of intelligence. The one journal was published on the Friday, and the other on Saturday. It occurred one moonlight Thursday evening, while he of the Saturday paper was walking alone about half a mile distant from the town, that he observed, a short distance off the road, the body of a man suspended by the neck from a tree. The man, in other words, had committed suicide by hanging himself. A fit of alarm seized the editorial

'we,' lest the discovery of the man having destroyed himself should be made that night, and consequently the rival journalist be the first to give the particulars of a circumstance which could not fail to produce a great sensation in the place. If Friday's 'Chronicle' had the intelligence before the Saturday's 'Courant,' it would be the making the fortune of the former, while it would be all but the ruin of the latter. What was to be done to prevent it? A thought struck the conductor of 'The Courant': he would, assisted by a confidential person employed in the office, cut down the body, and secretly convey it to a stable of his own, where he would conceal it till the following night,—against which time the rival journal would be published,—and then return with it to the spot where he found it. A horse and cart were procured, and the deceased was conveyed to the editor's stable, where the body was covered with straw. Next morning, a servant having occasion to remove part of the straw, discovered the body of the deceased. He immediately informed some persons who were passing the door of the stable at the time: in ten minutes the authorities were apprised of the circumstance. An inquiry into the matter was immediately instituted. Suspicions fell on the journalist: he had been seen, attended by one of the men in his employ, taking something out of a cart, and carrying it into the stable on the preceding night. He was taken into custody: a coroner's jury sat on the body: a number of circumstances, strongly presumptive of his having strangled the deceased, transpired in the course of the coroner's investigation; and his own life, according to all appearances, was about to become the price of his anxiety to deprive his rival of 'interesting local news,' when happily a small slip of paper, which had been overlooked in the first instance, was found in one of the deceased's pockets, which contained, in his own hand writing—he had by this time been identified—a declaration of his resolution to destroy himself. His narrow escape, and the trouble he got himself into, made the journalist more cautious in future as to the means he took to obtain 'exclusive' local news."

*Archives Curieuses de l'Histoire de France.*  
Par L. Cimber et F. Danjou. Vols. VIII. & IX. Paris, Bossange.

This curious and useful collection proceeds well, and affords an additional proof of the attention paid in France to whatever may conduce to the extension of historical knowledge.

The volumes now before us are of a more miscellaneous character than those which immediately preceded them, and will be just in that proportion more interesting to the English reader, who feels but little inclination to wade through three or four hundred pages of statements and counter-statements, respecting any one of the many plots which absolutely form the staple of French history at this period; but who rather would select those characteristic traits of men and manners which illustrate the general history of the period. For this purpose, the first of these three volumes affords abundant materials, since its mere table of contents would supply a very graphic picture of the age and country to which it refers. A most loyal notification of the discovery of a Huguenot spy, succeeded by a marvellous account, duly certified by the parliament of Dole, of a *wehr wolf*; a horrible description of a famine at Sancerre, in juxtaposition with the picture of a "triumph" at Paris, in honour of the king and holy mother church, when the fountains flowed with wine, and the streets were decked with tapestry; the "procès-criminel" against suspected conspirators, whose chief weapons were believed to be, a wonder-working ring, magical characters, and a waxen image "with two holes on the left side of the head;" followed by the disbursements of Charles IX., for "dwarfs" and "great dogs," for "six plumes of white and carnation feathers," and "a doublet of cloth of silver, striped with orange satin," and the ludicrous "ordonnances" of the same monarch for the government of the pastry-

§ At this time it was no uncommon thing for all the reporters, except one, abstaining themselves from the gallery for hours at a time,—that one engaging to tell them anything which had happened, on their return."

¶ I am assured, improbable as some may deem this story, it is strictly true."

cooks and confectioners of his good city of Paris, prohibiting them, under pain of suitable mulct, from making "pasties unless of sweet flesh or fish," or cheesecakes "unless of good loyal curd, and of good incorrupt cream;" followed by the severer ordinances of Chastillon, for the regulation of the military under his command, in which the provost marshal, halter, and gibbet form as conspicuous a feature as they do in the foreground of old battle pieces.

From materials so various and characteristic, we shall select a few of the most curious for the amusement of our readers. In the eighth volume we meet with the first notice of that far-spread belief in diabolical possession which was the scourge of this, and the earlier half of the following century; and it is rather curious that it takes the form of a very old and common superstition,—that of the *loup garou*, or *wehr wolf*. The belief that certain persons had the power of changing themselves at will into wolves, was very prevalent during the Middle Ages, throughout France and England, and many tale was told of these fancied transformations. Two of these tales, 'William and the Wehr Wolf,' lately edited by Sir F. Madden, and the lay of Marie of France, entitled 'Bisclavret,' represent these men-wolves as unwilling subjects of this transformation, and as behaving in a most Christian-like manner during its continuance; popular feeling however in both countries attached, (very naturally) a most wolf-like character to the transformed person, and viewed him as an object of horror. Still the popular notions respecting them, and indeed in respect to magic also, (for *witchcraft*, properly so called, was unknown until the close of the fifteenth century,) took no definite form; a misty obscurity veiled the rites and incantations of the sorcerer, and it was reserved for the age that was emphatically the age of discovery to push its inquiries so far, and with such singular success, into "Satan's invisible world," as to enable many a worthy writer to describe each part of his dominions with the accuracy of a Columbus describing the new continent, and to give the name and parentage of each "imp of hell" with the minuteness of a herald's college pedigree. The person, to deliberate upon whose crimes the court of parliament at Dole was summoned in January, 1573, and against whom "Messire Henry Camus, doctor of law, and counsellor of our king," appeared as public accuser, was one Gilles Garnier, a Lyonnais, and he was charged with having, "on the feast of St. Michael last, he being then in the form of a wehr wolf (*loup garou*), taken a young girl of ten or twelve years of age, in a vineyard near the wood of La Serre, and there killed and slain her, as much with his hands resembling paws as with his teeth; and afterwards having drawn her with his paws and teeth, near unto the aforesaid wood of La Serre, and having moreover stripped and eaten the flesh of the arms and legs, and, not content with this, to have carried some of it to Apolline his wife, in the hermitage of St. Bennet, near Amanges, in which he and his said wife resided." He is also charged, "that eight days after the feast of All Saints, being likewise in the form of a wolf," he killed another girl, "intending to eat her, had it not been that the body was rescued by three persons;" two other counts also charge him with having killed two boys, and eaten part of them; respecting one of them it is further stated, "that he had strangled him, with the intent to eat him, had it not been that there came persons speedily to the rescue, but the child was already dead, the said defendant being then in the form of a man, and not of a wolf, in the which form he would have eaten the flesh of the said boy, had it not been for the rescue, notwithstanding that it was Friday!" This last

passage, combined with the statement that Gilles Garnier had been in priest's orders, and married, affords a key to the reason of these charges, for heretics were very frequently proceeded against under plea of their being in compact with the devil; and that this was undoubtedly the case here, the following extract from a letter addressed by the compiler of this veracious account to the dean of the cathedral of Sens, fully establishes.

Gilles Garnier, lycophilus, as I shall call him, having been a hermit, afterwards took a wife, and having nothing with which to sustain his family, fell, as is the custom of evil doers, into such unbelief and despair, that while wandering in this state of mind among the woods and deserts, he was met by a phantom in the shape of a man, who promised him great things, and, among others, to teach him, at good price, the way by which he might become, at his pleasure, a wolf, a lion, or a leopard, and because that the wolf is a beast more common bereabouts than those other species of animals, he chose rather to take that form, as, in effect, he did, making use of an ointment with which he rubbed himself for that end, as he hath since confessed, before his death, with acknowledgment of his sins.

We may reasonably doubt this confession, which, however, was perfectly satisfactory to the parliament of Dole, who, "on the 18th day of the month of January, in the year 1573," condemned him "to be drawn backwards on a hurdle, by the chief executioner of high justice (*de la haute justice*), to the hill beside this place, and there, by the aforesaid executioner, to be burnt alive, and his body reduced to ashes."

But the terrors excited by wehr wolves among an ignorant and superstitious population, even although they were believed to have taken that form by the direct permission and suggestion of the author of all evil, were light, compared with the terrors which the most lofty in station, the most advanced in science endured, when they thought upon the deadly power which the unseen, perhaps unknown, wizard could exert over them, by means of the charmed ring, or the waxen image. The "procès-criminel" against La Mole and Coconnas furnishes some curious particulars. These two, together with an inferior agent, Tourtai, were executed in 1574, on suspicion of being concerned in the plot, the intent of which, it was alleged, was to place the Duke of Alençon at the head of the state, by the assistance of the King of Navarre, and the Huegonots. But, although Navarre, and Montmorency, and Condé were powerful enough to have accounted for the assistance the conspirators received, without the intervention of supernatural agency, and although the warlike attitude of the Huegonots afforded fair ground for suspicion of open injury, some vague and obscure notion of magical influences employed to shorten the king's life, seems to have been so firmly believed, that the execution of the prisoners was actually stayed for a time, that another application of the torture might wring from them the mysterious secret. Suspicion seems to have fallen on Cosmo Ruggieri,\* a teacher of Italian, who had been placed by Catherine de Medici with her son; and as from the testimony of Tourtai we find that he was "a swarthy man, with ill-favoured countenance, and always dressed in black," we perceive at once that he was well fitted in person, according to the popular rule, to play the part of a sorcerer. De la Mole having been brought before the judges on the morning of his execution—

He was admonished to say the truth, to which he said, "Ah! God is witness if I know anything else." Admonished to say the truth of the cipher which

he had with Count Charles—says, that he never had it.

It is shown to him that he had given figures to the duke, and had caused them to be made by Cosmo—says, that he never thought of it.

Besides this, it is shown to him, that it has been notified this morning, that he had certain images of wax, and a circle. Interrogated as to what he would do with them, and *what is the illness of the king?*—says, he knows nothing. As to the cipher, he says, "that Count Charles came there to find it, and afterward he sent it to him, by a man, to his house."

It was shown him that he had images of wax in his house, which *had two holes in the head*—he said, he had not.

He is asked, whose image that was of wax which was said to be found in his house?—he says, "Ah, God! if I have made an image of wax for the king, let me die."

He is asked what are the gold figures which were in his cap?—he says, he knows nothing.

Having been again fastened to the buckles and rings, and admonished to say the truth, he replies, *that he does not know what he has said*.

Again admonished to say the truth—he says, "True and Eternal God! I know no other thing; I do not know whether the image of wax has been made for the king or the queen."

Asked again as to the waxen image, and whether Cosmo had brought it to him?—he says, that the said image of wax was for love of his mistress, who is in his own country, and whom he wishes to marry; that they might see that image, and they will find it a female figure; that Cosmo has the image, which has *two cuts on the heart*.

He is interrogated as to what is the king's sickness—"Let me die," says he, "if poor La Mole has ever thought of it," and he prayed that Cosmo might be called.

After some more questioning and inflictions of the torture, to obtain some further information relative to this waxen image, La Mole is unbound, and placed by the fire, and again, as the last question, he is asked concerning it, when he finally, with the most solemn oaths, adheres to his original statement, and he is taken away to execution.

Count de Coconnas is now brought in and interrogated as to the waxen image.

He says he knows nothing about it; but that Cosmo and La Mole talked together with their friends.

If he knew whether any one had made any *paintings or characters* to the injury of the king?—he replies, "No," and says, that he formerly spoke in confidence to a captain of this city, who told him, that all the *rings* belonging to La Mole having been broken, he asked of this captain whether they had broken one ring, as large as his finger, (*grosse comme le doigt*), because if there were anything at all it would be found in that ring.

Did he know anything at all about the waxen image?—he says, "No, and that if there be any man who knows anything of it, it is Cosmo."

The repeated iteration of the questions respecting this waxen image, and the urgency with which they are put, prove how anxiously Charles IX., now labouring in the agonies of mortal disease, looked forward to the result of the inquiry; but no further information could be obtained, even although La Mole, when actually upon the scaffold, was again "admonished to say the truth, and to discharge his conscience;" and even when he and Coconnas were both on their knees, awaiting the axe of the headsman, the important question was again put, and the same unsatisfactory answer repeated. This took place on the 30th of April, and after enduring sufferings of no ordinary kind, Charles died on the same day of the following month, a coincidence which seems very singularly to have escaped the notice of his eulogists, who appear to have fully believed that he died of the arts (magical or poisonous) of the Huegonots.\*

\* He, however, escaped death, and was condemned to the galleys at Marseilles, where, however, he was allowed publicly to practice astrology.

\* From the report of his physicians, ulcerated lungs was the immediate cause of his death. Sorbie, his confessor,

The minute account of the lying in state, and the funeral, forms a singular contrast, even in an age of strong contrasts, to his death-bed. The wasted body was immediately placed on a bed of crimson satin, richly brodered, the chamber of death was hung with splendid tapestry, and there, surrounded by forty-eight friars of the four orders, who continued saying the service for the dead without intermission, it remained until the adjoining hall was suitably prepared.

And when that was ready, the effigy of the aforesaid king, made exactly like life, was placed on a bed nine feet square, covered with a great counterpane of rough cloth of gold, bordered with ermine, falling to the ground, over the three steps which surrounded the bed. The effigy, having the hands clasped, was clothed in a camisole of crimson satin, a tunic of blue satin *sémé* with *fleur de lis*, and over all a grand royal mantle of crimson and violet velvet, *sémé* with *fleur de lis*, and bordered with ermine, the train of this mantle being *five ells long*; on the collar of the mantle was placed the order of St. Michael, and upon the cap of crimson velvet, a rich crown, adorned and enriched with jewels; on the right, on a pillow of crimson velvet, richly brodered, was the royal sceptre, and on the left the hand of justice. At the feet of the effigy another pillow of rough cloth of gold, and rather lower, upon a high fald-stool, a cross of gold, and on another lower stool, a holy water sprinkler of silver gilt, and on each side of it, on two other little stools, the two kings at arms, were constantly seated. Over the above bed was a great and rich sky of tapestry, of gold, silver, and silk, and the sides of the said sky made of rich fringe of gold and great pearls. On either side of the bed, two altars, adorned with carpets of singularly rich broiderie, with silver-gilt candlesticks bearing tapers of white wax; and at the two corners of the great bed there were two great candlesticks of silver, five feet in height, each holding a moulded candle of six pounds weight, of white wax; nor was there any other light in the said hall, except the two great candles, and the tapers on the altars.

The said hall was furnished round with chairs, covered with cloth of gold, upon which sat the cardinals, prelates, lords, gentlemen, and officers, who continually kept watch by this effigy. And in this state the effigy remained *forty days*. And it is to be understood that during the time that the body lay in effigy in the said hall, that at the hours of dinner and supper the forms and usages of serving were observed and preserved, just as had been customary during the life of the said lord, the table being arranged by the officers of the harbinger, the service brought in by the gentleman servitors, the pantler, the cup-bearer, and esquire-carver, the usher marching before them, followed by the officers of the goblet, who covered the table with the reverences and assays which they were accustomed to make; then, after the bread was broken, and the meat prepared, and the service brought in by an usher, the maître d'hôtel, the pantler, the pages of the chamber, the esquire of the kitchen, and gentlemen of the ewry, the napkin was presented by the maître d'hôtel to the most illustrious personage then present, to wipe the hands of the said king; the table was blessed by some cardinal, or other prelate, the basins of water, to wash, were presented to the chair of the aforesaid king, as though he were alive, and seated therein.

We have translated the preceding rather long extract, both for the sake of the very minute picture it affords, even to the slightest detail, of a royal "lying in state," and for the really ludicrous forms by which it was accompanied. The account proceeds to inform us, that this solemn mummary was continued for the forty days, "with the same forms, ceremonies, and assays, as were customary during the life of the king, without forgetting those at the presentation of the cup, in the places and at the hours at which he had been accustomed to drink, at each of his repasts."

also states that the heart was found to be greatly diseased; "they found it withered," says he, "and the humours dried up, and from hence it is easy to judge the chief cause of his death, which was trouble, contracted by seeing his youthful age assailed by treasons." Let us hope that these sorrows were, rather, "compunctions visitings."

#### THE ANNUALS FOR 1837.

*The Landscape Annual.*—We have already spoken of the illustrations of this Annual with warm commendation; we may now add, that as far as its letter-press is concerned, this is Mr. Roscoe's best volume. He has heretofore been antiquarian, romantic, anecdotal,—but apparently at others' expense than his own,—gleaning pleasant and instructive scenes, passages, and incidents from the works, or it may be the conversation, of other travellers, and weaving them together with elegance and good taste. This year, however, he would make us believe that he has gone over the ground himself—himself surveyed the mysteries and treasures of the Escorial, and glanced at the motley throngs that people the Prado of Madrid,—has been kindled to eloquent enthusiasm, by surveying the gorgeous architecture of the Cathedral at Burgos. Moreover, as politics are the order of the day,—every month bringing before us some fresh Carlist or Christino journal of endurance and triumphs, Mr. Roscoe wisely introduces into his pages sketches of Guerillas and Chapelgorris, has his own anecdote of Muñoz, and his own grievance against Zumalacarregui, (for, if he have a tendency, it is against the "right divine" party). Beside these, we find in the Landscape Annual for 1837, pleasant and intelligent talk about pictures, theatres, travelling accommodations, &c. &c., and happy descriptions of the scenes Mr. Roberts has so admirably pourtrayed. *Da capo*—this is unquestionably the best of Mr. Roscoe's volumes.

*The Biblical Keepsake.*—With this third volume of reprints of the Messrs. Finden's beautiful engravings of scenes from the Holy Land,—the work is announced as having closed. It is, as far as our memory serves us, better than either of its immediate predecessors—and both of these were interesting in choice of subject, and excellent in their execution. As, however, we have noticed the work frequently in its progress, it were superfluous to dwell upon its merits further than by recommending it generally to public favour.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

We shall now proceed with and conclude our summary of the minor poetry before us,—beginning with *Anwick Castle and other Poems*,—volume so sumptuously printed, as to assure us that our American friends are beginning to hanker after magnificence of type and amplitude of margin. The principal piece which it contains, and its companion 'Marco Bozzaris,' are almost as well known here as on the other side of the Atlantic; and their author, Mr. Fitz-Greene Halleck, has been pointed at as the most likely among his countrymen to write the national poem of America. We differ from this opinion; and our reason was furnished by another remark in the paragraph wherein it was expressed,—namely, that the poet in question was never so thoroughly successful as in the "Whistlercraft," or sentimental-comic style. Now, though 'Don Juan' (a brilliant example) lives fresh in our memory, we do not hesitate to say that this pie-bald fashion cannot be the best for a sustained poem, the interest of which should be progressive, and its events or ideas skilfully and steadily conducted by the author with one prevailing purpose, till the tale, or chain of reasoning, be a perfect thing. This volume, however, besides the poems above mentioned, contains some beautiful verses; the Monody to Burns, "occasioned by the sight of a rose brought from near Alloway Kirk, in Ayrshire, in the autumn of 1822," ought to make its author many friends in the "North Country."

*Songs of Twilight, translated from the French of Victor Hugo*, by George W. M. Reynolds, author of the "Youthful Impostor."—Though the verse of Mr. Reynolds be smooth, and his language carefully chosen, the pamphlet before us must be pronounced to contain *dilutions*, and not versions, of Victor Hugo's poems. In his preface, indeed, the translator

owns as much. He need not be told that, if there be one thing above another for which the writers of *la jeune France* are remarkable, it is for the license of their imagery, and the audacious boldness of their personifications,—these may offer in their difficulty and exaggeration so many reasons why an author should altogether refrain from attempting to naturalize them in our soberer literature; but he is unacquainted with his first duty, if, choosing to make the essay, he emasculates his original, by way of escaping from its quaintnesses and individualities.

*The Song of the Bell, and other Poems*, from the German of Goethe, Schiller, Bürger, Matthiessen, and Salis; translated by John J. Campbell, Esq.—Some of the best known lyrics of Germany are here rendered into English, and, we must say, only passably well. Our writers would do well to remember that it is a different thing to translate German now, from what it was forty years ago. Then, as it were, we were thankful for any window through which we might peep at a land whose rivers, and ruins, and vineyards, were strangers to us; now, knowing the scenery better, and knowing how fair it is, we are not contented to admire it through a clouded and broken glass.

*Lady Alice, the Flower of Ossory; with Metrical Legends, Chronicles, Translations, and Miscellaneous Poems*, by John Henry Keane.—There are passages in this volume, which is, for the most part, devoted to legends and songs of the Emerald Isle, wherein talent is *intimated*, but none in which it is displayed. It is grievous to meet these *intimations* again and again, and to know, by disappointing experience, that in nine cases out of ten we are to look for nothing more than such feeble glimmerings of promise.

*The Gem of Christian Peace, and other Poems*, by Isabella Spicer; and *The Atonement, and other Sacred Poems*, by W. S. Oke, M.D.—belong to the thousand harmless, hopeless, collections of rhymes, that we are called upon to turn over in the course of the year, and compelled to dismiss as briefly as possible.

*The Althorp Picture Gallery, and other Poetical Sketches*, by a Lady, is the work of one refined and cultivated rather than poetically gifted; the principal poem was suggested, we are told, by Mrs. Jameson's delightful paper on Althorp, (why should we not have a *vade mecum* through the noble mansions of England, executed in similar taste?)—but we far prefer the original to its versified repetition.

*The Pilgrim—Memory, and other Poems*, may be classed with *The Pilgrim of Nature*: each of these volumes, we imagine, is the work of a young hand, but the Pilgrim to the Holy Land takes precedence, as being simpler in his language, and smoother in his song, than the 'Pilgrim of Nature,' who, if the truth must out, sometimes disposes us to smile, where he intends to be serious or sentimental.

*List of New Books.*—The Sacred Album, 1837, 4to. 21s. embossed roan.—Finden's Tableaux, imp. 4to. 42s.; profs. 63s. mor. gilt.—The Book of Gems, 1837, royal 8vo. 5s. cl. 6d.; imp. 8vo. 63s. bds.—The Token and Atlantic Souvenir, 1837, 12mo. 16s. embossed.—Devotional Harmony, selected by R. P. Budicomb and the Rev. B. Guest, 3rd edit. 10s. 6d. swd.—Cockring's History of Wesleyan Methodism in Grantham, 12mo. 4s. 6d. bds.—Cooke's History of Party, Vol. I. 8vo. 21s. bds.—M'Nish's Anatomy of Drunkenness, 6th edit. 12mo. 6s. cl.—The Book of Family Worship, 2nd edit. 32mo. 3s. 6d. silk.—Wall's Parent's Guide, 12mo. 2s. swd.—Dœca's New Italian Triglott Grammar, 12mo. 7s. cl.—Roma's Dictionnaire Français et Italien-Français, 12mo. 7s. cl.—Life of Nelson, by the Old Sailor, 6s. 6d. cl.—Abbott's Way to do Good, royal 32mo. 1s. 6d. cl.—Naturalist's Library, Vol. XV., Parrots, 18mo. 6s. cl.—Martin's Colonial Library, Vol. IV. (West Indies), 18mo. 6s. cl.—Southey's Cowper's Works, Vol. I. 18mo. 5s. cl.—Wordsworth's Poetical Works, Vol. I. 18mo. 5s. cl.—Registration Manual, 18mo. 2s. 6d. swd.—Count E. De Melfort's Impressions of England, 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s. bds.—Grimston's (The Hon. Miss) Arrangement of the Common Prayer and Lessons, 2 vols. royal 32mo. 12s. bds.: calf, 16s.; mor. 21s.; 2 vols. 12mo. 18s. bds.; calf, 25s.; mor. 30s.—Pearson's Trigonometry, 3rd edit. revised, 6s. 6d. cl.—Summer's Evidence of Christianity, 12mo. 6th edit. 6s. bds.—Jones's Book of Christian Gems, 12mo. 7s. cl.—Stewart's (Rev. J. H.) Memoirs of his Son, 3rd edit. 3s. 6d. cl.—Hints on Education, 13th edit. 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.—Hammond's History of the Soul, 12mo. 4th edit. 3s. 6d. cl.—Cambridge Greek and English Testament, new edit. 4s. 6d. cl.—Turner's Natural Theology, 2nd edit. post 8vo. 8s. cl.—Simeon's Works, Vol. XII. to XVI., 8vo. 10s. each. cl.—Churton's Portrait and Landscape Gallery, 8vo. 18s. half-bd. mor.; 21s. bd. mor.—The Dalemman, a Drama, in Six Acts, 8vo. 1s. 6d. swd.—Clay on Joint Stock Banking, 8vo. 2s. 6d. swd.

*Hourly Meteorological Observations for the June Solstice of 1836, made at Feldhausen, near Wynberg,  
Cape of Good Hope, by SIR JOHN F. W. HERSCHEL.*

No.	Time by Astrono- mical reckoning.	Barometer corrected for Zero Error.	Temp. of Mercury in Barometer.	External Thermometers.		Anerometer.		Wind.		Blue Sky.	General State of the Weather.
				Dry.	Wet.	Solar Radiation.	Time of Observation	Direction.	Force.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
M. T. h. m.	in. dec.	Fahr. ° dec.	Fahr. ° dec.	Parts of Scale.	h. m.			Duodec.		Dec.	
June 21.											
1	0 0	30.190	57.0	57.5	54.9	0		NW	2	0	
2	1 0	30.170	57.0	58.0	55.3			NW	2	0	
3	2 0	30.168	57.2	57.8	55.3	0		NW	1	0	
4	3 0	30.171	57.5	57.5	55.1	0		NW	1	0	
5	4 0	30.159	57.0	56.2	53.8	0		NW	0	7	
6	5 0	30.154	56.9	53.8	51.3	0		0	9		
7	6 0	30.151	56.5	52.3	50.1			NW	1	10	
8	7 0	30.151	56.5	51.0	49.1			0	10		
10	9 0	30.152	56.3	48.5	47.1			—	8		Misty, hazy atmosph.
11	10 0	30.162	59.0	48.6	47.7			0	0		Thick fog—sky overcast, with impervious clouds.
12	11 0	30.148	59.0	49.0	48.3			NW	1	0	
13	12 0	30.143	59.0	49.1	48.5			NW	1	1	
Midnight											
14	13 0	30.140	58.8	48.3	47.8			0	0	0	Overcast—drizzling rain.
15	14 10	30.138	58.8	44.6	44.1			NW	1	10	
16	15 0	30.132	58.5	45.7	45.2			NW	1	4	
17	16 0	30.116	57.7	46.6	46.2			NW	1	2	
18	17 0	30.112	58.0	47.1	46.5			NW	2	6	
19	18 0	30.112	58.0	47.4	46.8			0	8		Misty, hazy atmosphere.
20	19 0	30.134	58.0	47.8	47.5			0	9		
21	20 0	30.126	58.0	50.2	49.5			0	9		
22	21 0	30.125	58.0	55.5	52.3			0	9		
23	22 0	30.112	59.0	59.8	52.8	24.1	22 33	NW	2	8	
24	23 0	30.093	61.9	61.4	52.3	23.5	23 45	NW	4	8	
June 22.											
25	0 0	30.048	61.0	62.0	52.1			NW	6	7	
Noon.											
26	1 0	30.054	61.0	61.3	52.3	25.0	1 6	NW	4	7	
27	2 0	30.027	61.0	60.2	52.3			NW	4	1	
28	3 0	30.027	60.0	61.5	52.5			NW	5	0	Cloudy—dark weather.
29	4 0	30.016	60.0	59.6	52.5			NW	5	3	Overcast—dito.
30	5 0	30.050	60.0	58.3	52.8			NW	2	1	Threatening appearance of weather.
31	6 0	30.048	62.0	58.7	51.5			NW	4	1	Overcast and gloomy.
32	12 0	30.076	59.2					NW	5	2	Cloudy—misty, hazy atmosphere.
Midnight											

In the above observations the Zero corrections of all the instruments used are applied, so that the numbers in the several columns stand free from instrumental error, the Barometer being brought to correspondence in its readings with the Royal Society's standard, corrected for capacity, but not for capillarity, nor for temperature, or height above the sea level. The Thermometers are all brought to correspondence with a standard by Newman, superintended by Mr. Daniell, which was found to be in exact agreement with the standard of the Royal Society. The Zeros applied to the readings, for this purpose, were as follow: col. 2, 0m. 0s.; col. 3, +0in. 062; col. 4, -0° 95'; col. 5, 0° 00'; col. 6, +0° 28'.—For the corresponding Table of Observations made at the Royal Society, see *Athenæum*, No. 452.

#### WINES OF THE ANCIENTS.

[Concluding Article.]

It would be going at too great a length into the subject, to enumerate in an intelligible manner the various statements of the ancient writers on agriculture, upon the mode of cultivating the vine, and the treatment of the produce. They are not only numerous, but intricate and confused; so that, from their contradictory character, sometimes the idea very naturally occurs, that they wrote from hearsay rather than from personal acquaintance with facts. A vast deal on this part of the subject may be obtained from Dioscorides, Galen, Varro, Columella, Pliny, and others. Barry has collected together most of the important portions of those details, which Henderson has modified, but they are rather topics of curiosity than utility, even in what may be considered the most definite of their statements. It is wonderful what a vast deal of credulity is found in the ancient writers of this superior class, who were so situated that a very little trouble would have enabled them to arrive at the matter of fact. No one will credit Pliny, who, living almost in sight of Sicily, tells us that the Leontine fields gave a hundred-fold return for corn; nay, that it grew there without culture! Diodorus has got hold of the same tale. In respect to wines, Varro, a professed writer on agriculture, upon the authority of Marcus Cato, asserts that a jugerum (reckoning the Roman foot at 11.604 inches English,) or 27,849.600 square feet, had anciently before his time produced ten or fifteen culei of wine; a thing incredible. This is afterwards lowered to eight, as being in Columella's time the product obtained; and even then he does not state to be a common thing. The culeus was in measure 143 gallons 3 pints, and eight culei would consequently be 1152

gallons to about three-fourths of the English acre. The department of the Eure-et-Loire in France averaged, in 1829, no less than 2073 gallons for every two and a half acres English, and two thousand gallons on the acre have been produced in some spots in the department of the Mérinthe. The quantity is stinted in modern times by pruning and keeping down the vines; anciently they were suffered to luxuriate, and consequently give more must than the modern practice would permit, on account of the wine thus produced being weak and more liable to ascendency.

When the ancients racked their wines after the vintage, they were sealed up in amphore. An account of the size of the various vessels used by the ancients for holding their wine, will be found in most classical works of reference.

The wines, when sealed up, were exposed to the action of the *fumarium*, to mellow them by heat, and impart to them a slight taste of smoke. They were sometimes so long in this species of vinous purgatory, that they became unpleasantly thick, and required to be diluted with water before they could be drunk. This practice of prematurely ripening wine has been followed in modern times, in Madeira particularly, where stoves and the temperature of stable dung are applied to the same purpose. An East India voyage is another species of mellowing of a somewhat similar character. It is probable that the smoke, which it appears, from passages in the poets, must have pretty well blacked the vessels containing the wine, was the medium of one particular degree of heat conducive to the imaginary benefit of the wine, which degree of heat was in this way most easily and cheaply obtained. In this, and many similar details, there is much resemblance between ancient and modern objects, though the mode of their

attainment may be somewhat different, as well as the taste of those who indulge in the juice of the grape. It is very certain that the delicacy of pure wine, as we understand it, was not valued by the ancients.

The amphore holding their wines were placed in the ground; their bottoms terminating in an inverted cone adapted them for the purpose. They were arranged in the cellars or stores of the owner in a regular manner, specially noted or marked with their age and quality. The Greeks seem to have kept their wine, with other valuables, in places which preclude our notion of wine-cellars. Cloths, costly vessels, brazen armour, and such like, could not have withstood the dampness of a situation below the level of the ground, like that we are accustomed to use for a wine-cellars. It may be concluded, therefore, that not much attention was paid to the temperature where the Greek wines were stored up. This was of less consequence, as most of their wines were of a character to make such precautions of less moment. Sweet, thick wines, such as the modern Cyprus, some of which is as thick as oil, do not easily get injured, if kept in the shade, in a place of ordinary temperature. The Romans seem to have had cellars differently managed; at least, it may be so presumed, from what is said of the quantities of wine some of them possessed, and from a reference to the places where it was stored up. That they were no strangers to an apartment so essential for the preservation of the vintages of which they boasted, a perusal of Horace affords proof. The principal allusions to cellars, however, seem to relate principally to those places where the primary operations after the vintage were carried on by the grower, and the wine was made fit for sale; but the existence of cellars, the counterpart of our own, is not at all disproved in relation to private dwellings.

Red, black, and white wines, being mentioned by the ancient writers, whose works are left us, or by the poets, it can hardly be imagined the intermediate shades of colour were wanting in the numerous varieties of wine. Pliny states Italy to have possessed. The aroma of the ancient wines has been praised by the poets, but it is impossible to know of what it consisted, or how it arose. There were so many substances mingled with the Roman wines, that the fragrance of a newly-opened amphore must not be supposed to resemble what we call the *bouquet* of Champagne or Burgundy. The natural freshness and odour of pure vinosity must not be compared with the artificial perfume of Roman wine, so praised by the poets. Here, again, the fluctuations of fashion, even in respect of odours, must pass for something in the account, for it is doubtful whether a modern perfume might not be anciently a scent avoided by Roman noses, and the reverse. That on opening an amphore, as the poets tell us, a most fragrant odour came forth, we may take, on their credit; it was an odour to them, but all people do not like musk, and civet may be no perfume to a South Sea islander.

The flavours of the ancient wines, to which allusion is thus made, we must be content still to leave in mystery. From the medical writers of antiquity remaining to us much may be gleaned respecting their dietic qualities, but the colours and vinous character too must remain, with the perfume, unknown. The poets were more likely to have conveyed us an idea of them by some happy phrase, than the scientific writers on natural history, or the technical man of medicine; but, for anything of this kind we search in vain. Different degrees or varieties of flavour, like flavour itself, cannot be defined in language.

The ancient vintage generally took place towards the end of September. In all ages in the southern climes this has been esteemed the most joyous season of the year—a festival of cheerfulness and plenty. The serene atmosphere, the rich fruit hanging in purple clusters, the genial sun, the excited jollity of the vintagers, the activity everywhere apparent, the expected boards of wealth placed at the disposal of the agriculturist, to reward his toils, and the universal buoyancy of spirit like that which in the chilling north is felt only in the day-dawn of existence, all these annually mark the southern vintage, and have been noticed by the ancients in sculpture, painting, and poetry. Nothing of grace or beauty has been omitted in their delineations of its scenes. It seems as if they despaired of making art adequate

to the representation of the reality; and difficult, it must be confessed, is the task to depict the delicious influence exerted at the vintage season upon the spirit, and the outpouring of joyful hearts which overflow on the occasion, consisting of the pure feeling acted upon by nature in her most inspiring moments. The vineyards of the ancients were more picturesque than ours. The vines ran in magnificent festoons of deep green leaves and clusters "dropping odours, dropping wine," from elm to elm, now twining round the trunks, now interleaving with the majestic branches, or in pendulous lines waving their rich fruitage in the soft southern breeze. Here, trained on lofty trellises of leaves far above the head, furnishing cool and shady walks amid alleys of rich verdure; or there planted around lofty poles that met at the top, and formed pyramids of leaves and fruits. The vine is trained so still in Southern Italy. A modern French or German vineyard, with its pruned and stunted vines, must yield the palm of beauty to the ancients, although it may afford wine of more endurance. It is wonderful how every image connected with the vintage was worked into the fables woven in old time to celebrate the season. Bacchus, or his attributed figure in the sculptures of Egyptian Thebes, with all the scenery of the vintage, were placed there as we now see them, before Troy fell, or Greece interwove with images of still greater beauty and grace, the attributes of the season, to imitate which the genius of the Romans could make no worthy addition. The ivy crown, the thyrsus, emblem of fauns, goats, casks, lions and panthers, centaurs, lyres, flutes, garlands of vine-leaves, satyrs, Pan, Silenus, Bacchantes, flowers, combinations of all kinds, with rural scenes of exquisite taste; and lastly, female beauty and the god himself, were ever present in the poetry and fine arts of the ancients, in connexion with the vintage.

In the management of the grape and wine-press, the ancients do not seem to have differed materially from the moderns. The French use the dossier now for conveying the grapes to the press, and the ancients also carried the bunches in baskets, and so deposited them in the vats ready for treading. The "cutting," as practised now, by which is to be understood the squeezing down the hard cake or murr when it has undergone one or two pressings, previous to its being again subjected to the press, was done exactly in the same manner. The more simple presses were such as they are in the central parts of Spain at this day, consisting of little more than a powerful lever, although in later periods, or among the opulent, screw presses were adopted. The fermentation, too, was managed in a mode little different from that pursued by the moderns. It does not appear that there was any part of the process of wine-making in ancient times that may not be found practised in some part or another of Europe at the present day. For example, at Moulins, in France, they make a powerful wine by putting must into a cask, strongly bound, and plunging it, in its unfermented state, into the wine vat, until the fermentation is over. The ancients used to plunge an amphora of must into the sea in the same manner. In fact, there are few or no novelties in wine-making in modern times, as far as any mechanical operation is concerned. Even the custom of making what is called *piquette*, or small wine, for the labourers in the vineyards, from the last pressing of the must, was also done by the ancient wine growers. The sweet wines were manufactured precisely in the same manner two thousand years ago as they are now.

It has been already shown, from a passage in Horace, that Greek wines were made in Italy in his time: "Chian wine that had never crossed the seas," is a pretty clear allusion to this mischievous art. Martial plainly hints at it in an epigram to Pamphilus:

Thou, Pamphilus, Setine and Massic serv'st up,  
But rumour thy wines has accurst;

and the poet then declares that he is not at all thirsty, in the way of an excuse for declining to drink them.

Liqueurs were anciently made from unfermented must, as they are now concocted in the south of Europe, except that in our time the produce of the still is added to them in proportionate quantities. There has been a great deal of conjecture respecting the meaning of the passage in the book of Genesis which refers to Pharaoh's butler squeezing the grapes

into the cup, as if the monarch had only partaken of unfermented must. If Noah was intoxicated, it could not have been with a must that had not undergone fermentation. That the Egyptians knew how wine was made seems very plain, even at an early period of their history. Some have argued that the Egyptians, having dedicated wine to Typhon, the deity of evil in their mythology, were on that account inimical to its use; but it is well known that Osiris, the son of Ammon, was the Egyptian Bacchus, and, in fact, a personification of the solar orb, the heat of which is necessary to the vine. Jablonsky goes so far as to pronounce the condemnation of wine by certain religious sects to have been derived from Egypt. Of such sects the Gnostics and Encratites were examples. The Manicheans ascribed the invention of wine to the prince of darkness, and yet they would eat grapes, for which St. Augustine condemns them, on the ground that if they refused wine they ought also to decline eating the fruit of which it was made. This was certainly untenable reasoning on the part of the saint, for cooling fruits and intoxicating wine are very different things. The Essenes called wine "the fool's physic," from their antipathy to it, while Paracelsus called it "the blood of the earth;" thus diverse are the opinions of mankind. The bad effects of vinous excess were enough to cause the condemnation of wine altogether among ascetics. We see that our own temperance societies argue against the use from the abuse. It is true Herodotus tells us there were no vines in Egypt, but we find the vintage sculptured at Thebes a thousand years before his time, and fine grapes are grown as far up the Nile as Esne at this day. That the quantity of wine made in Egypt was not sufficient for the use of all the inhabitants is evident, from a beverage made of barley having been drunk there by the people, analogous, no doubt, to our beer. The abuse of wine is forbidden in the Koran,<sup>2</sup> and not its use; but the faithful prefer to interpret the command to refrain as absolute. Some of the truly orthodox in the Mohammedan church account unlawful the pronunciation of the name of wine; while the latitudinarians in the faith of the prophet drink it freely in secret. The heat of the climate of the East, and the mischiefs so obviously foreseen as likely to be caused there by excess in wine, were reasons enough that so shrewd a man as Mohammed should lay a restraint upon the source of an evil, the extent of which could not always be foreseen. Notwithstanding the story of the two angels Harut and Marut,<sup>3</sup> and various fables of the Easterns to explain the cause, it seems sufficiently clear to the plainest understanding, that such were his motives. There is a good deal of wine consumed secretly in the Mohammedan empire, of which there are stories not unattended with circumstances of a humorous character. An aged Maronite was seen by a Sirdar, smoking his pipe on a tombstone, and though the Maronite had concealed his wine-pitcher, the Sirdar guessed he had been drinking on the hallowed spot. "Bring the Giaour hither," said the Sirdar to his janissary, "make him breathe full in thy face—there, does he not smell abominably, Mustafa? Bring him nearer to me—don't you smell his breath?" "Why, really," replied the half-drunken janissary, who loved wine as well as his master, "really there is a strong smell of wine amongst us, that cannot be doubted, but whether it comes from you, sir, or me, or this Giaour, may I die if I can justly say!"

We have thus far presented the reader with the wine of prose, and also, in some respects, of poetry; let us now turn to the "poetry of wine," for such a poetry there is, and it forms no mean portion of song both in ancient and modern times. The rich bacchanalian pieces of Rubens, congenial in character with the glow of his colouring, may show what the fine arts can do for the subject; but pictures perish, while verse lives for ever. The exhilarating effects of wine have been the poet's theme in every age, from the feeling of Anacreon towards it, down to our own Milton, who asks in his twentieth sonnet:

What neat repast shall feast us, light and choice,  
Of attic taste, with wine, whence we may rise  
To hear the late well touch'd, or artful voice  
Warble immortal notes or Tuscan air?

Wine carries the bouquet of antiquity, its name

being blended with the great and glorious of past ages. "Attic taste, with wine," not excess, but the sober, cheering use. There is nothing even in Anacreon, sensualist as he is, exciting to the plenitude of ebriety which we understand by the term drunkenness. Petronius, the miserable tool of Nero, alone makes a merit of the vice. To sobriety Horace everywhere counsels his readers. In his ode to Varus<sup>4</sup> he invites to the joys of wine; but that the bounds of soberness may not be passed, he says, "Let us think on the Lapithæ's quarrels, and on the Thracians, who drink to madness, and who lose all distinction of vice or virtue." He invites his friends to cheerfulness and "harmless wine."

Anacreon has been paraphrased until he is scarcely to be recognized. Cowley has succeeded here to admiration. The late translation, by Moore, is a paraphrase. The conciseness of the Greek forms a singular contrast to translation in the original verses.<sup>4</sup> "The black earth drinks; the trees drink up the earth; the sea the air, the sun the sea, and the moon the sun. Why argue the matter, friends? I am equally willing to drink!" In his fifty-seventh ode he desires water for his wine, and declares for temperance, and against imitating Scythian riot and ebriety. The praises of beauty, music, and dancing, always intermingled with those of wine, show anything rather than the sottish, after-dinner drunkenness of the moderns.

The poets, in fact, enjoyed it with discretion; they did not swill like the drunkard, or "swallow it as a sow does whey."<sup>5</sup> They knew and felt its genial spirit. A Greek poet says—

Water drinkers' works of course  
Are languid, cold, and void of force.

And Horace hints something of the same nature to Maenaces in his nineteenth epistle. The idea is further carried out by Walter de Mapes, who declares he could not make his sermons without wine. He has been imitated as follows:—

Mysterious and prophetic truths  
I never could unfold 'em,  
Without a flagon of good ale  
And a slice of cold ham.

This is a national substitution of ale for wine. The Oxford divine wrote—

Every one by nature hath a gift too, a dotation;  
I, when I make verses, do get the inspiration  
Of the very best of wine that comes into this nation;  
It maketh sermons to abound for edification.

Aristophanes says that the poet Cratinus was so grief-stricken upon seeing a vessel of wine broken, and the inspiring liquid running to waste, that he died in consequence. This, and the story of Anacreon having been choked by a grape-stone, are most probably apocryphal, originating in their known love of wine, and their songs in praise of it. The garlands of Anacreon are still as blooming as ever, and there is no one attached to the elegant, cheerful, and beautiful things of the mind that would spare a line of this glorious old Greek, whose roses, odours, loves, and verse, have survived the storms of so many ages, while they prolonged his own life to eighty-five. These associations with the remnants of perished genius cling fast to our souls, and they create a poetry in every susceptible mind. In this sense we are all poets, for it is only to feel nature and refine upon existences as they show themselves in their everyday garb, and we are of the fraternity. Although we cannot put our sensations into language, they minister not the less to our enjoyment.

Homer, in his mention of wine, runs so much into the epic that one cannot be merry with him; his wines are "colossal," if one may so style them. His Maronean is too potent for ordinary people, and prevents the being social and cosy with him over his cups. Freedom is the soul of wine; hence Anacreon insists upon drinking, singing, and dancing with Lyæus, the name of Bacchus, indicative of free thought and light-heartedness; but Homer's goblets are all gallon measures, and he crowns them in brimmers. Virgil gives us little on the subject; but we infer, from the invitation of Horace,<sup>6</sup> that he was something better than one of the stately epic when he visited a friend. Horace seems to reproach him gently with too great a regard for ambition. "Come, Virgil," says he, "bring a box of spikenard, and I

<sup>1</sup> Φάρμακον ἀφρούνης.

<sup>2</sup> Sale's Koran, Vol. I. c. ii. p. 37; Vol. II. c. xvi. p. 81.

<sup>3</sup> See Abbe Martin's Travels.

<sup>4</sup> B. i. Carm. 18.

<sup>5</sup> Ode xx. Kel. Ed.

<sup>6</sup> Beber vino como si fuera suero.—Sp. Prov.

<sup>6</sup> B. iv. Carm. 12.

have a cask of the right sort ready for you; don't come empty-handed, without the perfumes, for I cannot treat you as some wealthy people do. Come and forget your ambitious designs for a moment; think how soon death must end all thy schemes; come, then, and taste the folly that unbends the mind a little."

The poets gave Bacchus eternal youth,<sup>7</sup> and this attribute does not seem contradictory when the oblivion caused by wine of the evils of age is considered. One of the most ingenious stratagems to render wine agreeable in a hot climate is given in an epistle of Aristenatus. A lover and his mistress are walking in a garden in a shady valley. All of a sudden a transparent stream glides by them, and stops their progress. Down the cool current comes sailing a little fleet of drinking-vessels filled with the most exquisite wines. The sails or leaves possessed of medicinal virtue to counteract the inebriating quality of the wines. In the Anthology are numerous specimens of Anacreontic elegance. What can be more beautiful than an invitation like the following from Philodamus? (*Anthologia inedita.*)

To-morrow, Piso, at the evening hour,  
Thy friend will lead thee to his simple bower,

To keep with feast our annual twentieth night:

If there you miss the flask of Chian wine,

Yet hearty friends you'll meet, and, while you dine,

Hear strains like those in which the gods delight;

And if you kindly look on us the while,

We'll reap a richer harvest from your smile!

The poetry of wine has brilliant gems in its stores. The Greeks have left us the richest treasures; but the theme is a very copious one, far too much so for this article. There is an abundance of anecdote relative to wine in Atheneus, and several other writers, bequeathed us, from whom nothing is drawn here. There is scarcely one poet of all antiquity remaining from whom some pleasing allusion to wine might not be taken. Even in the sacred volume we find the same thing, but frequently enveloped in the magnificence of the Eastern imagery. The patriarch Jacob says of his son Judah—"He washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes." In the Canticles, Solomon writes of flaggons of wine. In some of the denunciations of the prophets it is very sublimely used in the way of metaphor, with that happy generalization of application which is so remarkable a characteristic of the writing and poetry of the Hebrews.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP ON LITERATURE AND ART.

We have received a copy of the Evidence laid before the Parliamentary Committee "of inquiry into the best means of extending a knowledge of the arts, and of the principles of design among the people;" another object of the Committee being, it will be remembered, an inquiry into the "constitution, management, and effects of institutions connected with the arts." Either of these subjects furnishes us with matter for deliberate examination rather than *gossip*: yet, as the former must be deferred for awhile, it may not be unwise in the meantime to lay a few extracts from the first part of the report before our readers. We shall begin with such passages as bear upon the recent parliamentary grant for the establishment of Normal schools of design:—"According to the evidence of a distinguished foreigner, Dr. Waagen, the intelligent Administration of Prussia has felt the necessity of paying great attention to the instruction of the Prussian manufacturers in art. The *Gewerb Institut*, at Berlin, was founded with this view. It appears that a constant correspondence is maintained between this institution and the more distant local governments and local manufacturers. In Bavaria (now the classic country of the arts) there are 33 schools of design. Outline drawing, to a considerable extent, forms an element in the system of national education." \* \* It appears to the Committee that, in the formation of such an institution, not mere theoretical instruction only, but the direct practical application of the arts to manufactures, ought to be deemed an essential element. In this respect, local schools, where the arts reside as it were with the manufacture to which they are devoted, appear to possess many practical advantages. In such situations it is probable that the arts will eventually strike root and vegetate with vigour. But if a more central

system be adopted, the inventive power of the artist ought equally to be brought to bear on the special manufacture which he is destined hereafter to pursue. This principle is judiciously adopted in the *Gewerb Institut* at Berlin; in which, after one year of general instruction in art, the pupil selects a branch of manufacture as his trade, and passes two years in the practical application of art to the peculiar manufacture which he has chosen. Unless the arts and manufactures be practically combined, the unsuccessful aspirants after the higher branches of the arts will be infinitely multiplied, and the deficiency of manufacturing-artists will not be supplied. \* \* It appears to the Committee most desirable, with a view to extend a love, a knowledge of art among the people, that the principles of design should form a portion of any permanent system of national education. Such elementary instruction should be based on an extension of the knowledge of form, by the adoption of a bold style of geometrical and outline-drawing, such as is practised in the national schools of Bavaria. The Committee further would suggest that, if the proper machinery for accomplishing such an object were supplied, the progress of the people in the arts should be reported annually to Parliament. This part of the subject, however, is involved in the much greater question of a responsible minister of education; which the limits imposed on the Committee prevent them from doing more than alluding to."—And here follow a few words, which cannot be too frequently repeated, on the importance of the recommendation they convey, too strenuously insisted upon: "In nothing have foreign countries possessed a greater advantage over Great Britain than in their numerous public galleries devoted to the arts, and open gratuitously to the people. The larger towns of France are generally adorned by such institutions. In this country we can scarcely boast of any. Our exhibitions (where they exist) are usually periodical. A fee is demanded for admission, and modern works only are exhibited. From such exhibitions the poor are necessarily excluded. Even those who can afford to pay seldom enjoy the advantage of contemplating perfect specimens of beauty, or of imbibing the pure principles of art. If the recommendation of the Committee were adopted,—that the opening of public galleries for the people should, as much as possible, be encouraged,—casts of the best specimens of sculpture might be advantageously transmitted from the metropolis to the different towns. Casts are cheaply supplied in Paris under the superintendence of an artist; and a tariff, indicating their several prices, is issued for the benefit of the public." \* \*

"The difficult and delicate question of copyright has already engaged the attention of the House; and numerous complaints of want of protection for their designs have been laid before the Committee by artists and manufacturers. \* \* The most obvious principle of any measure enacted for the protection of invention appears to be the constitution of a cheap and accessible tribunal. The French have long possessed a prompt and economical Court of Judgment for cases of this kind—the *Conseil des Prud'hommes*, prevalent in the manufacturing districts of France. These local tribunals form a kind of jury or board of arbitration, composed of master-manufacturers and workmen, empowered to decide on priority of invention in design, as well as on many other subjects connected with manufactures. It has, however, occurred to the Committee, that where a dispute arises concerning originality of invention between designers residing at a distance from each other, local tribunals would not readily afford a final adjudication.—In addition to cheapness, the greatest promptitude of decision is another obvious element in the constitution of such a tribunal. For this and for other reasons a system of registration appears to be indispensable. \* \* Another element in the consideration of this subject is the varying duration of protection to be extended to different inventions in manufactures. The varying periods of protection form a question of minute and exact detail, fit for separate investigation, and dependent on evidence too specific to be comprehended in the more general inquiry undertaken by the Committee."

The above fragments, hastily gleaned from the report, are, indeed worthy of serious and deliberate consideration. In conjunction with them we may here mention the establishment of a new Institution at

Newcastle, to be called the North of England Society, the objects of which are not merely the encouragement of the Fine Arts, but the cultivation of design as applied to manufactures.

A rumour of promise, too, has reached us from America, namely, that the question of international copyright is about to be brought before Congress during the coming session, and some measure of protection for authors on each side of the Atlantic introduced. Would not this be an excellent time for bringing the subject before our own Houses of Parliament? The recent attempts made in France to procure an extension of the term of copyright, lead us to hope that the matter may be also arranged between ourselves and our continental neighbours.

#### FINE ARTS

*Sir Thomas Lawrence's Cabinet of Gems*, with Biographical and Descriptive Memorials by P. G. Patmore.—We should have noticed this volume among the other Annuals for the coming year, had not the exquisite fac-similes, by Mr. Lewis, of Sir Thomas Lawrence's Drawings claimed for it a place among works of art rather than literature. We must, however, say that Mr. Patmore's memorials, though slight, are pleasantly put together. We suspect that there remain but few new anecdotes to be told of Sir T. Lawrence, and profound criticism was not to be looked for in a work of this kind. But every collector of the choice things of Art will welcome this series of drawings with open arms. It commences with portraits of the father and mother of the artist; the latter, a fine, Sidonian head, sketched, we are told, but half an hour before her decease, and bearing, in feature, almost a *manly* resemblance to her son. The next is an exquisite drawing of Lady Hamilton, who was among young Lawrence's earliest London patrons; there is a mingled inspiration and voluptuousness in the up-turned eyes and rich finely-curved lips, which are rarely to be found in one and the same countenance. This is followed by five single heads of children, each of which may furnish a morning's study to the poet as well as the painter; the first and the fourth of these are, perhaps, our favourites. After these come a pair of groups of children—equally excellent and suggestive. But it is something like a needless expenditure of space to descant upon the merits of Sir Thomas Lawrence's drawings at this time of day; it is, then, sufficient to add, that besides the subjects we have specified, the 'Cabinet of Gems' contains his profile likeness of his niece, Miss Bloxam, and another female portrait of most regular and tranquil beauty. Mr. Lewis, it is almost equally needless to remark, has done his part admirably; in short, the volume ought to command a *perennial*, rather than an annual reputation.

*The Book of Gems*.—This volume, which is devoted to a second series of the poets of England, maintains, as far as the variety of its illustrations, and the care with which they have been engraved, are concerned, the high character won by its predecessor. All of the plates, (and it is to the notice of these that we must confine ourselves,) are not, it is true, of first-rate excellence; but many will admire most the very subjects to which we take exception; and we must specify not a few which have satisfied us thoroughly. The monumental design by Flaxman, for instance, which, with Pomfret's poems, opens the volume, leaves little to be desired. Harvey illustrates Swift's 'Cadenus and Vanessa' with a graceful and delicate Arcadian vignette: the poems of Watts, which come next, are headed by a Crucifixion, after Danby; parts of this design have a gloomy and portentous grandeur, but the lightning glancing upon the centre figure on the cross is in bad taste. We must pass Piddington's pretty domestic group, in company with which the verses of Philips appear; and Linton's lovely, but too *maniére* vignette, which prefaces Parnell's 'Hermit'; and the operatic, wild-eyed grim, with whose figures Mr. Holst has seen fit to illustrate a passage from the 'Night Thoughts,'—for the sake of more inviting subjects which follow. The girl in the group prefaced by William Allan to the poems of Allan Ramsay, is a sweet and lively creature,—the "ain Peggy" of the poet. Then follow three beautiful landscape-vignettes by Lee, Sidney Cooper, and Creswick, to the specimens of Pope, Gay, and Somerville. Our next favourite is Mr. Fraser's 'Hermit,'—a serene old man, wisely coining

<sup>7</sup> Solis eterna est Phœbo Bacchoque juventa.—*Thibullus.*

some holy book in his cave of retirement: we see not, however, how the design illustrates the passage from Savage's 'Wanderer,' to which it is prefixed. An extract from Thomson's 'Seasons' finds a far more literal companion in Mr. Boys's Quay scene, which is our next halting-place; and we scarcely know how to leave the fair-haired, bare-footed, Fisherman's Child, by Lover, who is twice as sweet and natural as the verses by Mallet, over which she presides. Mr. Balmer's Canal scene, which accompanies an excerpt from Dyer's 'Fleece,' is worthy of some rare Dutch landscape painter. Mr. Wood's Cupid and Psyche is luxurious and graceful; but we must hurry on, with only a passing word of compliment to Mr. Jenkins's Lady, and Mr. Shepherd's vignette of London—fitly associated with the poems of Johnson, who loved no shade half so well as "the sweet shady side of Pall Mall"; and to Mr. Cottman's distant prospect of Eton College, which, save for the figures introduced in the foreground, would be perfect. Nor shall we offer more than a word of remonstrance against the two following designs. Mr. Turner has contributed a Damon and Pythias—a piece of gorgeousness in miniature—to Akenside's panegyric on Friendship. Mr. Chatfield's domestic group above Cotton's 'Fireside,'—that sober, but sweet, old poem, has much of the right spirit in its conception, but the drawing of the sitting child is defective, and she smiles too obviously "with all her might." We must next specify Mr. Constable's morsel of landscape, which is prefixed to some of Warton's pastoral verses, as one of the freshest and most natural things in the book. A group of 'Children playing at Soldiers,' by Mr. Farrier, head the selections from Goldsmith; the name of the artist and the nature of his subject warrant its being clever and full of life. Nothing can be better than Copley Fielding's 'Wreck'; we hear the heavy gusts of wind, and the triumphant surging of the waters, described (with all the inspiration of prophecy) by poor Falconer. Mr. Priest's 'Tempestuous Evening,' which comes next, is another happy thing, as to effect; the foremost figures, however, should not have been represented as bare-headed in such weather. Mr. Oakley's Gipsy, illustrating Copper's literal and pathetic description of that homeless and singular people, is full of character: from her again we must hasten onward, not, however, passing without a nod Mr. Buss's racy design of the old Citizen, who derives as much fear as consideration from the possession of his gig, his plump, laughter-loving, coquettish wife, and their young Hopeful in the boot,—fit companions to Lloyd's 'C't Country-box.' Few of the imaginative vignettes in this volume are more to our mind than Mr. Hill's Court of Faery, so musically described by Beattie as being the subject of the minstrel's midsummer night's dream. We have left ourselves scarcely room for a good word of the second Gipsy group by Robertson, accompanying Langhorne's 'Country Justice,'—of the Child by Gainsborough, as natural and as attractive in her chubby plainness, as Hayley's tributary lines to that accomplished painter are repelling in their honeyed affection,—of Mr. Cox's Sea-side landscape, which, too, in truth and simplicity surpasses Hurd's verses from the 'Favourite Village,'—and of Mr. Shayer's pastoral Boy and Girl, the very pair to preface the selections from Bloomfield. Our description, sketchy as it is, will make many look for the 'Book of Gems' with impatience, and few will be disappointed by the reality when it comes before them.

### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

#### DRURY LANE.

This Evening, LA SOMBAMBULA; with MY NEIGHBOUR'S WIFE; and FRA-DIAVOLO.  
On Monday, THE GLADIATOR; and GUSTAVUS.  
Tuesday, THE MAID OF CASHMERE.

#### ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.

This Evening, THE FREEBOOTERS; after which HOUSE ROOM; to conclude with MISCHIEF MAKING.  
On Monday, THE MOULDS OF SCOTLAND; with MR. P. Horton;  
Donald, &c. &c.; with THE PACHA'S BRIDAL.  
Friday, A Variety of Entertainments for the Benefit of Mr. Hud-  
son, Box Book-keeper.

#### OLYMPIC.

This Evening, COURT PLEASANT; Private and Confidential; after which, A PLEASANT NEIGHBOUR, with FORTY AND FIFTY; and ONE HOUR, or The Carnival Ball.  
On Monday, An entire New Burletta, entitled, HE WOULD BE AN ACTOR in which Mr. Charles Mathews and Mr. Oxberry will appear; and, first time, a New Burletta, in which Mr. Conquest will appear; to conclude with THE OLYMPIC DEVILS.

**DRURY LANE.**—The audience on the first night of Mr. Forrest's appearance in 'The Gladiator,' evidently thinking highly of his powers as an actor, and wishing to put them at once to the severest test, gave him a sort of friendly challenge to appear in one of Shakespeare's characters. He has answered the challenge promptly, and stood the test nobly. If we were slow to award him the highest honours of Tragedy, before we had seen enough to convince us that we ought to do so, the value of our praise, whatever it may be, will not be diminished by our giving it, as we do now, most heartily and most sincerely, after a deliberate conviction, formed upon sufficient grounds, that he has fairly won it. "Comparisons are odious," between living actors at all events, and as we feel them to be wholly unnecessary, we shall avoid them. We have tried Mr. Forrest's *Othello* by the part itself, and pronounce it, without hesitation, to be, in our humble judgment, one of the very best representations of one of Shakespeare's finest characters which it ever fell to our good fortune to see. To say that it is not faultless, is only to say that it is not what nothing is—but, as a whole, we regard it as a historic effort of the first order. That Mr. Forrest has studied the part long and deeply, there can be no doubt; and the result proves most clearly that a healthy and vigorous intellect has been brought to bear upon such study. Others, perhaps, have given as fine readings of the character of *Othello*, but no one that ever we saw so completely identified himself with the man *Othello*. We are the more willing to render Mr. Forrest this piece of justice, because it happened that we expressed a doubt last week about his power of delivering passages of domestic tenderness, a doubt which, in this magnificent but most domestic tragedy, he has entirely put to flight. In this respect, and it is a most important one, we think Mr. Forrest's *Othello* superior to the late Mr. Kean's. Mr. Kean drew a most beautiful and touching picture of suffering, but Mr. Forrest is the living sufferer.—Mr. Kean's *Othello* was on a pedestal to be looked at, admired, and pitied.—Mr. Forrest's is on a level with you—his griefs go direct to your heart, and at once awaken its best sympathies.—Mr. Kean, in short, mourned over his misfortunes—Mr. Forrest writhes under them. The applause was loud and general from all parts of the house, to a performance to which we regret that limited space will not permit us to do more ample justice.

### MISCELLANEA

**Belgrave Literary and Scientific Institution.**—The half-yearly meeting was held on the 17th instant. The chair was taken by W. Ewart, Esq., M.P., one of the Vice Presidents. It appeared from the Report of the Council, that the Lectures delivered weekly during the past half-year had been most satisfactory; and that the Library contained upwards of 2700 volumes. The Report made particular mention of the donation, by Earl Fitzwilliam, of 1000; and a vote of thanks to the Noble President was carried unanimously.

**Brussels and Antwerp Railway.**—We learn from *Le Voleur* that this undertaking, which has been in operation only a few months, has already met with very great success. The following is an account of the number of travellers who availed themselves of it the first four months. In May 101,000; in June 98,000; in July 112,000; in August 117,000; total 428,000. This calculation is made in round numbers: but there is no doubt that the precise number would exceed 430,000. This result is extraordinary. The number exceeds that of the travellers by the Manchester and Liverpool Railway, which is upon the average only 80 per train, whilst upon the above it is 200. The average price is 1 fr. per person, and the receipts for the four months in question are more than 430,000 frs., which gives an interest of 5 per cent. on the capital.

**Stomach Pump.**—A. M. Lafargue has presented a memoir to the French Academy of Sciences, on an improved sort of stomach pump, which he thinks might be made serviceable even in certain stages of that formidable disease, calculus in the bladder.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**  
A. T.—J. A. G.—E. H. received.  
Other correspondents next week.

### ADVERTISEMENTS

### UNIVERSITY of LONDON—LECTURES ON ENGLISH LAW.

Professor W. G. LUMLEY, B.C.L. Barrister-at-Law.  
The Courses will commence on WEDNESDAY, November 2.  
There will be two Classes:—In the First, the Law which relates the Rights of Persons and Personal Property, will be discussed.

In the Second, the Law of Personal Property will be concluded, and the Law of Real Property explained.

The Lectures to the FIRST CLASS will be given every Wednesday, at 4 to 7 o'clock, p.m. Those to the SECOND CLASS, every MONDAY and FRIDAY, at 4 to 7, p.m.

Fee—First Class, £2; Second Class, £1.

Admission to the Introductory Lecture, on the 2nd of November, gratuitous.

AUGUSTUS DE MORGAN,  
Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Sec.

25th October, 1836.

**MADAME TOURRIER** (née von Holst), Professor of the Pianoforte and Singing, respectfully announces that her ACADEMY FOR SINGING in the ITALIAN, GERMAN, and ENGLISH LANGUAGES, will commence at her Residence, 138, New Bond-street, on Thursday, the 17th of November next; so that the Instruction will be continued every Monday and Thursday, from 5 to 6 p.m.

**Monsieur Tourrier**, Professor of French and Drawing, (Author of the 'Model-Book') has an ACADEMY FOR DRAWING every Wednesday and Saturday, from 2 to 4.

### PENTON HOUSE

CLASSICAL AND COMMERCIAL ACADEMY,  
19, PENTON-STREET, PENTONVILLE.

Conducted by Mr. J. BURBIDGE (late of Chancery-lane).

**M. JONAS BURBIDGE** has just opened the above Academy for the INSTRUCTION OF YOUNG GENTLEMEN in the various branches of Education. The routine of Education which will be pursued at this Establishment will embrace the following subjects:—

The Latin and Greek Classics; the correct reading, writing, and pronouncing of Latin and Greek; Geography, with the use of the Globe; Mathematics, with the Art of Calculation; Writing plain and ornamental Hands; History; Chronology, and the first principles of Natural and Experimental Philosophy.

Principles and Terms may be known as above.

An EVENING CLASS for YOUNG LADIES, from Six to Eight.

### Sales by Auction.

#### SOUTHGATE'S ROOMS. VALUABLE BOOKS.

By Messrs. SOUTHGATE & SON, at their Weekly Sale Rooms, 22, Fleet-street, THIS DAY, Oct. 29, including,

**DUGDALE'S MONASTICON**, 8 vols. L.P.—History of St. Paul's—Wood's Baber and Palmyn-Briton's Cathedrals, L.P.—Encyclopaedia Metropolitana, 15 vols.—Waverley Novels, 48 vols.—Hasted's Kent, 12 vols.—Monk's Chronicle—Daniel's Burial Sports—Lardner's Works—Hurd's Works—Pompeii's Pompeians; &c. &c.

May be viewed, and Catalogues (price 1s.) had at the Rooms.

On THURSDAY, November 3, and two following days, ENGRAVINGS OF THE HIGHEST CLASS,

IN THE FIRST AND CHOICEST STATES, From the PORTFOLIOS of a COLLECTOR; also a CONSIGNMENT from the CONTINENT:

Consisting of the Madonna and Infant Saviour, after Caracci, by R. Morghen, India proof, in the rarest state; after Raphael, by R. Morghen, India proof, (the reverse plate proof)—Infant Saviour, after Dolci, before any letters—Adam and Eve, after Raphael, by F. Muller—Madonna, after Raphael and Joseph, after Gomil's and Verrius, all proofs—Dead Christ and the Virgin, after Cimabue, by F. Muller—Statue of Annanias, Temple of Juniper, after Turner, by Pye—Rotterdam, after Caldeot, by Cooke—Nature, after Sir T. Lawrence, by Doo—Chelsea Pensioners, Distrainting for Rent, and Blinde-man's Buff, by Wilkie—George IV., after Lawrence, by Finden—Sir Charles, all in proof—The Young Poet's Physician, by Wm.—Madonna, after Mantegna—Madonna del Francesco—The Works of Sir B. Strange, Longhi, Bartolozzi, Desnoyers, Ulmer, Edelincke, Volpato, Wolett, Sharp, &c., all in the finest states.

ETCHINGS AND PRINTS BY OLD MASTERS; RARE EARLY ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PORTRAITS; DRAWINGS, SKETCHES, &c.

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### STOCK OF A BOOKSELLER Relinquishing Business.

By Messrs. GRIMSTON & HAVERS, at their Great Room, No. 398, High Holborn, (five doors West of Chancery-lane), THIS DAY, October 29, 1836, and 5 following days, at half-past 12 o'clock precisely;

AMONG WHICH WILL BE FOUND

**DUGDALE** at Dodsworth, Monasticon Anglicanum, 3 vols. folio; **Dugdale's Warwickshire**—Philosophical Transactions, 55 vols. half mor. —Curtis's Flora Londinensis, 2 vols.—British Essayists, 45 vols. calf, gilt—Dr. Parr's Works, 8 vols.—Classical Italian, 45 vols.—Monthly Review, 176 vols. calf.—Cabinet Library, India proofs, 2 vols. L.P.—Examiner, 21 vols. Cabinet Gallery, India proofs, 2 vols. L.P.—

Sidney Hall's Atlas—Literary Souvenir, 9 vols.—Donovan's Exotic Natural History, 5 vols.—Webster's Dictionary, 2 vols.—Bell's Admirals, 8 vols.—Biomont's Norfolk, 11 vols. L.P.—Roxburghe's Roxburghe, 10 vols. half mor. and Hargrave's Switzerland and Italy, proofs—Elliot's View in the East, India proofs, 2 vols.—Birnewall and Creswell's King's Bench Reports, vol. 1 to 3; and other Law Books—Valuable Old Divinity—Scarce Old Poetry—Long Series of Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews, Monthly and Gentleman's Magazine, Brände's Journal, &c. &c.

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CONTINENT—PARIS.

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**The Directors of the LONDON and GREENWICH RAILWAY COMPANY** feel much disappointment at having to announce to the Public, that the Opening of the Railway from London Bridge cannot take place on the 1st of November, as they had confidently expected, in consequence of the delay in the delivery of the Iron-work for the Bridge over Bermondsey-street, upon which they have, however, hopped to say is on the spot; and that as work is now proceeding with all possible activity, the Directors are assured that in a few days they may fix with certainty the time at which the ceremony will take place, every other part of the work being now completed.

The Company's Carriages run every half hour from Bermondsey-street to Deptford from 8 in the Morning till 5 in the Evening. (By Order of the Board.)

26, Cornhill, Oct. 27, 1838. T. Y. AKERMAN, Sec.

**INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS**, 43, King-street, Covent-garden, London.

Extract from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting, held on Monday the 28th of March, 1838.

**RESOLVED**,

That the following be the Subjects for the Honorary Premium to be awarded next year.

"On the Application of the Theory of Sound in the construction of Edifices, by which the Rules may be ascertained for building Theatres, Churches, Halls, and other places for public meetings, in the manner most favourable for the transmission of sound."

"On Works which should result to Architecture, in regard to design and arrangement, from the general introduction of Iron in the construction of Buildings."

The Soane Medal will be given to the Author of the best Essay on the former subject; and the Institute Medal to the Author of the best Essay on the latter.

DIRECTIONS

For Persons who propose to send in Papers upon the preceding Subjects.

Each Essay is to be written in a clear and distinct hand on a separate sheet, and to be distinguished by a mark or motto, without any name attached thereto.

It is to be accompanied by a sealed letter, containing the name of the writer within, and on the outside the same motto as that attached to the Essay; and to be enclosed in a sealed envelope, directed thus—

"To the Honorary Secretaries

of the Institute of British Architects.

"Motto."

The packet, so prepared and directed, is to be delivered at the Rooms of the Institute, on or before the 31st day of December, by twelve o'clock noon.

The Council will not consider themselves called upon to adjudge a premium, unless there be a paper sent in of sufficient merit to deserve that distinction. The Essays, to which the premiums are awarded, become the property of the Institute, to be published by them, if they see fit. In case the papers not be published, the Authors will receive, monthly, after receiving the Medal, the authors will be at liberty to publish them.

Any further information which may be required, may be had on application (by letter, post paid) to the Honorary Secretaries.

**TRANSACTIONS of the INSTITUTE of BRITISH ARCHITECTS**.

Part 1 of Volume 1 is in the press, and will be shortly published. The following Papers form part of the Subjects contained in this Part—

The Report read at the Annual General Meeting in May, 1838.

G. Goodwin, jun. Associate—Prize Essay on CONCRETE.

C. Taylor, Fellow—On Underpinning with Concrete.

H. Weston, Fellow—On Terrene Roots, and Description of the Iron Roof in the Fish-Market, Hungerford Market, (with 3 Plates.)

Description of the Experimental Pier of M. J. Brunel, Esq. (with 3 Plates.)

J. B. Papworth, V.P.—On the Benefits resulting to the Manufactures of a Country from a well-directed Cultivation of Architecture and the Art of Ornamental Design.

F. P. Robinson, V.P.—Description of the newly-discovered Crypt at York Minster (with Plates.)

V. R. Morris, Esq.—On the Polychromy of Greek Architecture; from the German of Dr. Kressler, (with a coloured Plate.)

W. G. Hamilton, Esq.—Description of the Ruins of the Ancient Armenian City of Auni, near Cars.

Lists of MSS. of Vitruvius preserved in various European Libraries.

An Account of the District Lunatic Asylums in Ireland, by W. Murray, Esq., Architect of Dublin.

Orders received by Mr. Weale, Architectural Bookseller,

High Holborn; and at Mr. Williams' Library of Arts, Charles-street, Soho-square.

**MARYLEBONE LITERARY and SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION**, Edwards-street, Portman-square.

The following LECTURES will be delivered during the present Quarter:

H. Brown, Esq. On the Nature and Tendency of Works of Fiction.

T. Serle, Esq. On the Drama.

E. Taylor, Esq. On Vocal Music, with Illustrations.

E. Cowper, Esq. On the Manufacture of Paper.

W. De la Rue, Esq. On the History and Manufacture of Playing Cards.

Mona. Dellier, Esq. On the Literature of France.

W. C. Wylie, Esq. On the Crusades.

John Hemming, Esq. President of the Institution, On the Art of Embossing.

The Readings, supplied with the Morning and Evening News, are free on payment of 10s. a week.

There is also a valuable Library for circulation and reference, open to the use of the Members. Terms of subscription Two Guineas per annum.

G. H. GARNETT, Hon. Sec.

158, Fleet-street, Oct. 29, 1838.

**D. NUTT** (Agent of Asher, to Berlin) beg to recommend his Catalogue of FOREIGN BOOKS, now READABLE and may be had in sets, comprising German Literature and Periodicals, also Illustrated, Architectural, Elementary, Lexicographical, and Classical Works.

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**PHYSICAL THEORY OF ANOTHER LIFE.**  
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